Maryland-bred paces sale | Parx celebrates big day | Stakes return to Presque Isle

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 30, Issue 11
NOVEMBER 2022

Irish Eyes

Hewick's wild ride continues with Far Hills score

Divining Rod

LEADING SECOND-CROP SIRE OUTSIDE OF KENTUCKY

National third leading active second-crop sire by % winners/starters

Coady Photography

DIVINING ROD's leading earning **CLIMBER** increased her bankroll to $327,930 with her easy victory as the 2-1 favorite in the $150,000 Cardinal Stakes at Horseshoe Indianapolis on Oct. 5, her third stakes victory of 2022.

The nationally ranked second-crop sires above Divining Rod all stand in Kentucky and average 185 foals. Divining Rod, with only 91 foals, compares remarkably with a sire crop that includes Gun Runner, Keen Ice, Arrogate, Practical Joke, etc.

THE MID-ATLANTIC'S LEADING SECOND-CROP SIRE
BY STAKES WINNERS, STAKES HORSES AND PROGENY EARNINGS

Tapit–Precious Kitten, by Catienus

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Midlantic December Mixed & Horses of Racing Age

DECEMBER 6, 2022 I TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

Fasig-Tipton
fasigtipton.com

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SARA GORDON

In this issue

Ireland's Hewick thrives in Jersey Hills

Purchased for less than $1,000 as a 2-year-old, Irish steeplechaser Hewick adds to his tall but true tale with a victory in the Grade 1 American Grand National, headliner of the Far Hills Races, the richest day in American jump racing, in New Jersey. By Sean Clancy. Page 22

Maryland-bred filly shines at Fasig-Tipton

Bred by Matt Dorman's Determined Stud, a Maryland-bred daughter of Uncle Mo tops the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale at $320,000. She was joined in the top three by Determined's Maryland-bred More Than Ready filly and a Pennsylvania-bred Munnings colt sold by Becky Davis. By Joe Clancy. Page 28

Stars shine on big day at Parx

The Grade 1 stakes went to Bob Baffert (Pennsylvania Derby) and Steve Asmussen (Cotillion), but Parx Racing's biggest day belonged to plenty of others including a dream-come-true win by That's Right in the Turf Monster-G3. By Paul Halloran. Page 33

Presque Isle hosts signature race again

Shelved because of Covid, the Grade 2 Masters returns to Pennsylvania track Presque Isle Downs. By John Piassek. Page 38

Monmouth wraps strong meet

Bigger fields and a stronger wagering handle helped New Jersey's Monmouth Park shine in 2022 as fixed-odds wagering becomes part of the equation. By John Piassek. Page 40

Cover: Ireland's Hewick and Jordan Gainford head to victory in the American Grand National hurdle stakes at Far Hills. Photo by Tod Marks.

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2022 MARYLAND-BRED/MARYLAND-SIRED STAKES SCHEDULE

Through December 2022

November 25

$75,000 HOWARD & SONDRA BENDER MEMORIAL 3YO & Up, 7 furlongs

$75,000 POLITELY 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 6 furlongs

December 3

$100,000 MD JUVENILE FUTURITY 2YO, 7 furlongs

$100,000 MD JUVENILE FILLY CHAMPIONSHIP 2YO, Fillies, 7 furlongs

Find it on MarylandThoroughbred.com

Maryland-Breds

Weekly Entries & Results
Alpha–by Horse, by Breeder, by Stallion

Maryland Sires

CURRENT ACTIVE SIRES

Today's Entries • Yesterday's Results
Runners by Year Listings

On our home page, the top pull-down menu for Stallions, you will now find Progeny entries/results. Listed are all of the day's entries for Maryland-sired runners, the previous day's results, and a Statistics button that allows you to sort by stallion name to view results by year (2022-2017). This is for current active stallions registered in the Maryland Fund program. We have also added a feature under the MD Breds tab that lists a week's worth of entries/results of Maryland-bred runners.

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Volume 30, Issue 11

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Bill Reightler Bloodstock

Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December Mixed Sale
Selling December 6 • Timonium, Barn I-J

Weanlings

F Barbados–Falcon's Eye MD-bred
C Barbados–Flirtation Walk MD-bred
F Catalina Cruiser–Head for the Shore MD-bred
C Cinco Charlie–Gulf Coast Breeze MD-bred
F Cloud Computing–Kela's Pride MD-bred
F Cross Traffic–Our Miss Bop WV-bred
C Divining Rod–E Dubai's Humor MD-bred
F Divining Rod–Sugar Shack MD-bred
F Global Campaign–Miss Mystique MD-bred
F Golden Lad–Lemon Patch PA-bred
F Hoppertunity–Secret Affair PA-bred
C Imagining–Frightful MD-bred
C Irish War Cry–Celtic Katie MD-bred
C Jimmy Creed–Moon Vision MD-bred
F Jimmy Creed–Rowdy MD-bred
F Jimmy Creed–Sagamoon MD-bred
C Juba–Empress Heart WV-bred
F Mitole–Frozen Tundra WV-bred
C Mor Spirit–Grecian Maiden MD-bred
F Mosler–Beau's Trip MD-bred
C Outflanker–Saucy Countess MD-bred
C Promises Fulfilled–Hot Fun MD-bred
F Sharp Azteca–Starvista WV-bred
F Vekoma–Sky Given MD-bred
F Warrior's Reward–Delightful Lana PA-bred
C World of Trouble–Hiding MD-bred

Yearlings

C Irish War Cry–Ready to Lead MD-bred
F Unified–Music Town MD-bred

Broodmares

Be a Gem Jump Start–I've Been a Gem
I/F Free Drop Billy
Bugle Call Lemon Drop Kid–Clambake (Ire)
Camille Claudel Broken Vow–Charming Ruckus
I/F Divining Rod
Celtic Katie Posse–Katie's Love
Delightful Lana Temple City–Indian Beads
I/F Pat On the Back
Desi Girl Silver Train–Buraq I/F World of Trouble
Empress Heart Bodemeister–Stolen Heart
I/F Engage
Gulf Coast Breeze Stormy Atlantic–Quicaria
I/F Holy Boss
Kahana Henrythenavigator–Delighted Cat
I/F Hoppertunity
Laurie's Choice Congrats–Laura's Minstrel
Magic Election Magician (Ire)–Contested Election (Ire) I/F Galawi (Ire)
My Girl Tricksy Hat Trick (Jpn)–Stolen Heart
I/F Juba
Perfect Lover Not For Love–Sad Refrain
Pikachu Princess Redeemed–Sweet City Band
I/F Central Banker
Playful Love Tapit–Palacio de Amor
I/F Higher Power
Secret Affair Can the Man–Secret Forest
I/F Pat On the Back
So Charming English Channel–Miss Hellie
Stolen Heart Ecton Park–Rahfee I/F Engage

Racing / Broodmare Prospects

Dixie Divine Divining Rod–Dixie Dancer MD-bred
London Lady Hard Spun–Eva London FL-bred
Zoomed In Dialed In–Madam Aamoura FL-bred

Contact Bill Reightler • 443-935-7583 • Billr3@verizon.net • BillReightlerBloodstock.com

POST TIME

MUDSLINGING MATCH. Deciding Vote (left) splashes to victory in the Salvatore M. Debunda PTHA President's Cup at Parx Racing Oct. 3 to clinch the overall MATCH Series championship for owners/breeders Anne and Bill Pape and trainer Eddie Graham.

Nikki Sherman/Equi-Photo, Inc.

Say It Again

"Did I get it wrong? Is this the December sale?"
Shamrock Farm's Jim Steele, speaking for pretty much everybody at October's yearling sale at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic

"We had to lend a lot of jackets for some people who didn't prepare for the weather."
Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's Paget Bennett

"No Derby horse yet, but it's worked well. You never know."
Trainer Dale Capuano, on looking for a future star at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale

"The only year I didn't do good at Timonium was the year I didn't come."
Sales consignor Scott Mallory, who sold the sales-topper at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's yearling sale in 2022

"The sign fell down in a storm. I didn't know when I was going to change the name, but I had to make a new sign anyway so I figured that was the best time."
South Carolina horseman Travis Durr, who recently renamed the Webb Carroll Training Center he purchased in 2016

"I'm just tickled pink they're not presenting it to me posthumously. All kidding aside, it's certainly something I didn't expect. I never felt I was a standout by any stretch of the imagination, but by the same token it's a great honor."
Retired jockey, and steward, Danny Wright on joining the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) Sports Hall of Fame

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

DOUBLE OPPORTUNITY. Pennsylvania-bred Hoppertunity fillies Midnight Parade (left) and Pachelbel finish 1-2 in the Imply Stakes at Parx Racing Sept. 24, giving Northview Stallion Station's first-year sire his first two stakes performers.

GO FIGURE

3 Horses bred by Larry Johnson in the third race at Laurel Park Saturday, Oct. 8. They finished third (Votethemallout), fifth (Class Wizard) and sixth (Believeinrocknroll).

2 People who asked MAT's Barrie Reightler if she'd seen snow yet during the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale in October. No, but it felt like it.

59 Combined steeplechase victories of the nine runners in the American Grand National at Far Hills, N.J., Oct. 15.

2 Regional sires in the national rankings for second-crop sires in 2022 through Oct. 17. Divining Rod was 14th with more than $2.1 million in earnings while Blofeld was 19th with in excess of $1.4 million.

NAMES OF THE MONTH

Pep Rally. The 2-year-old filly, who made her debut in October at Laurel Park, is by Mor Spirit.

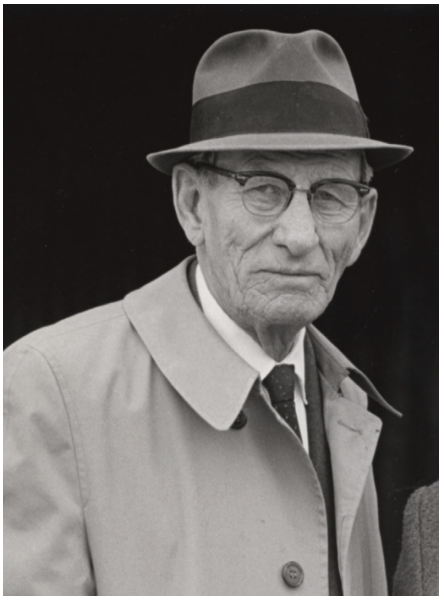
Once Was Lost. The 3-year-old filly, bred in Maryland by Lady Olivia at North Cliff and owned by Eagle Point Farm, is out of Found.

Cash Now. Owner/trainer Dawn Skelton's 5-year-old gelding, bred by Klein Racing, is out of Hidden Assets. The Kentucky-bred won at The Meadowlands Oct. 8.

~ From the Archives ~

Cindy Deubler dives into the history of The Maryland Horse and Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred every month for Looking Back and other pieces for the magazine, and found this gem from 50 years ago. Owner/trainer/breeder B. Frank Christmas talks about a life in racing with editor Snowden Carter. You can find items like this under the Content tab of midatlantictb.com in digital archives.

Life lessons from B. Frank Christmas



SKIP BALL COLLECTION / MARYLAND HORSE LIBRARY

Fifty years ago, Marylander B. Frank Christmas, the second oldest of the four horse-training Christmas brothers, decided it was time to sell his good 4-year-old filly Wakefield Miss. As *Maryland Horse* editor Snowden Carter reported, the filly's 75-year-old breeder-owner-trainer knew that she was destined for bigger things.

"The only place to run her was in New York," Christmas explained. "And I was tired of running all over the God-damned country. So I tried to sell her. Went to Henry Clark first, but we couldn't make a deal.

"Then somebody told Allen Jerkens that I had a nice mare for sale. He called me up from New York. He believes in me. I gave him a price, and he bought her sight unseen. He didn't know whether she could run, walk, trot or gallop. He bought her because he thinks I'm all right."

Wakefield Miss was all right. And a few months later became a stakes winner in the All Brandy Handicap, her sixth win for Hobeau Farm. The daughter of Christmas' stallion Towson would go on to greater things the next year when winning the Grade 1 Ladies Handicap at Aqueduct. She retired with 10 wins and earnings of $140,011.

After her first stakes win, Christmas reflected on a life with horses in that conversation with Carter.

Any regrets selling Wakefield Miss?

"Hell, no," replied the man who started "fooling around" with horses at the Marlboro racetrack when he was 14 years old. "She deserved a chance at the big time, and I couldn't give it to her. I raced in New York for 25 consecutive years, but I've come to a point now in life where I want to be home."

The owner of Idle Miss Farm in Monkton, Md., he resided with his wife Mary in suburban Towson.

"I own this mare's sire and dam. What Wakefield Miss does for Jerkens increases the value of my other stock. You can't go around kicking yourself just because a horse you sold turns out to be a bargain."

Carter asked about life growing up on a farm in Upper Marlboro in Southern Maryland after his father moved to Maryland from Virginia. All four Christmas brothers – the others J. Yancey, Donelson and Edward A. – became professional trainers, Ed the most famous as the trainer of Hall of Famer Gallorette. Their only sister, Rhoda, also had a trainer's license.

"[My father] didn't do nothing for a living. Nothing. He had inherited enough money so that all he had to do was enjoy life. He had a few trotters he raced at the fairs. But it was Dick [B.F.'s younger brother Donelson Christmas] who got us interested in flat racing. He bought a horse from a livery stable in Washington. That's the horse that took us to the racetracks."

Christmas had a knack for picking up good horses at cheap prices, and trusted his pedigree knowledge.

"You got to look at the families if you want to come up with good horses. Sure, a freak will slip in once in awhile. A really good horse with no pedigree whatsoever. But if you spend your life waiting for that kind of thing to happen you'll die first. It's like getting struck by lightning."

Like veteran horsemen of today, Christmas compared racing in 1972 to his early days.

"It's terrible. And I'll tell you why. Consolidation ruined New York. Used to be they had stalls at Aqueduct, Belmont, Empire City and Jamaica. Now the only stalls are at Belmont. If you don't get along with the man who runs Belmont, you've got no chance. Used to be that you could go over and make friends with somebody else at another track. Now it's a dictatorship. I tell you, any consolidation in Maryland would be a mistake. We need all the stalls we can get."

Christmas loved the direction of the Maryland breeding industry?

"It's improved a lot and it's going to improve more. But Marylanders are still cheap. How many Marylanders will pay you what a horse is worth? They're still looking for deals and cut-rate prices."

Breeder, owner and trainer of steeplechase stakes winner Home to Papa that year, Christmas gave jump credit.

"Steeplechasing does something for the game. I like them. Always have."

That comment led to a story about his best jumper.

"I bought Galley Boy after he was broke down. Patched him up to win the Noel Laing at Montpelier but he got hurt again in that race. So I put him away for two years and then brought him out to win the Battleship at Pimlico in his first start. Ran him without a shoe on him. The closer you can get to nature the better off your horse is. The more shoe you got on them, the harder it is for them to break over that extended toe.

"Anyway, after I win the Battleship with Galley Boy in his first start in two years, this friend comes over to me and says what a remarkable training accomplishment I've performed. I just looked at him and said: 'Hell, any sonofabitch that can't get a horse ready in two years ought to quit.'" ◆

MILESTONES

Presented: The Maryland Million 2022 Joe Kelly Unsung Hero Award, to Fran Burns. For more than a dozen years, the Maryland native has been actively involved in both fan education about racing and Thoroughbred aftercare. She grew up riding and showing horses in Baltimore and took in a horse named Dustin's Dreamer in 2008, turning him into a top show horse. Since then, she's assisted with fundraising programs, sponsorships and promotion for the MidAtlantic Horse Rescue. Every year she works with Pimlico's Canter for a Cause and quietly helps off-track Thoroughbreds in need of homes. Her promotional activities include serving as head tour guide for the very popular Sunrise Tours during Preakness week at Pimlico, as well for the Maryland State Fair. She's in charge of hiring and managing the guides, and leads a tour for kids from Arlington Elementary and Middle School every year. One of the co-founders of the Thoroughbred Alliance Show series, she continues to manage its Facebook page, which provides updates on horses, horse shows, and assorted Thoroughbred programs. The Joe Kelly Unsung Hero Award is named for Maryland Million's first and only publicist, who served in the role from the event's inception in 1985 until his death in 2012. Presented by the Board of Directors of Maryland Million Ltd. to honor Kelly's memory, and given out on Maryland Million Day, the award celebrates important characteristics that are valuable, but sometimes go overlooked.

Won: His first race since 2016, jockey Eric Camacho, when he guided Hillwood Stable's Post Time, a 2-year-old Maryland-bred son of Frosted, to a debut triumph at Laurel Park Oct. 7. Camacho, 38, exercises horses in the morning for trainer Brittany Russell, including Post Time, who ran 5½ furlongs in 1:04.26 over a fast main track in a maiden special weight originally carded for the turf. Camacho rode one race in 2021, had another single mount in 2017, but hadn't ridden regularly since a 16-win year in 2016. Camacho won 785 races between 2004 and 2016, capturing Laurel Park's 2005 winter meet riding title. A native of Columbia, Camacho was a teenager studying mechanics at a local technical institute and working at a tire store before deciding to become a jockey after a chance meeting with rider Alberto Delgado. Camacho won the 2008 Forward Gal-G3 and Davona Dale-G2 on Bsharpsonata and 2013 Bashford Manor-G3 on Debt Ceiling.

Inducted: Into the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) Sports Hall of Fame, former jockey and steward Danny Wright, a regular on the Mid-Atlantic racing circuit from 1967-1993. Wright, 75, was born in Brooklyn Park, Md., and won a county championship as a 95-pound wrestler before turning his sports interest to racing. He rode his first race in 1967 and finished with 2,158 victories (probably more though since early statistics are difficult to come by), the last coming at Laurel Park aboard Wilder Now Dec. 15, 1992. His final mount also came at Laurel, a second on No Peer March 20, 1993.

Wright won a dozen graded stakes and more than $16 million in purse earnings. He won four graded stakes on Caesar's Wish, champion Maryland-bred filly in each of her two racing seasons. They teamed up to win the Villager-G3 and Demoiselle-G2 in her 2-year-old season of 1977 and the Black-Eyed Susan-G2 and Mother Goose-G1 in 1978. "Of course, Caesar's Wish was a fantastic opportunity. The people that own her were so good to me," Wright said. "We won a lot of races with her." Wright also enjoyed success on Cormorant winning the Bay Shore-G3, Gotham-G2 and Jersey Derby-G1 in 1977, and finishing fourth behind Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew in the Preakness Stakes-G1. "I loved being a jock," he said. "It just let this little man talk tall for a lot of years, and I got no complaints." Wright went on to a long career as a racing steward–first at Atlantic City and for a long stretch at Charles Town. He retired from that racing job in 2020. Wright joined retired major-league pitcher Gavin Floyd, Cornell All-American wrestler Mack Lewnes and former Chesapeake High softball coach Dennis Thiele in the Hall of Fame class.

Projected: A 2022 North American foal crop of 18,700, The Jockey Club, after reporting that 1,303 stallions covered 29,065 mares during 2021, according to statistics compiled through October 6, 2022. These breedings resulted in 18,609 live foals of 2022 being reported to The Jockey Club (estimated to be 85-90 percent complete). The reporting of live foals of 2022 is down 2.2 percent from last year at this time when The Jockey Club had received reports for 19,021 live foals of 2021. The number of stallions declined 10 percent from the 1,447 reported for 2020 at this time last year, while the number of mares bred declined 2.1 percent from the 29,699 reported for 2020. Kentucky-based stallions accounted for 57.8 percent of the mares reported bred in North America in 2021 and 61.6 percent of the live foals reported for 2022. The 16,796 mares reported bred to 207 Kentucky stallions in 2021 have produced 11,460 live foals, a 0.7 percent decrease on the 11,535 Kentucky-sired live foals of 2021 reported at this time last year. The number of mares reported bred to Kentucky stallions in 2021 increased 1.9 percent compared to the 16,485 reported for 2020 at this time last year. Among the 10 states and provinces with the most mares covered in 2021, four produced more live foals in 2022 than in 2021 as reported at this time last year: California, Ontario, Oklahoma and Indiana. Regional states included Maryland (down 8.2 percent to 481 live foals reported) and Pennsylvania (down 24.3 percent to 340 live foals reported). The 2022 breeding statistics are available alphabetically by stallion name through the Resources–Fact Book link at jockeyclub.com.

Scored: His 1,000th career win, Mychel Sanchez aboard ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable's Malibu Beauty in the George Rosenberger Memorial Stakes at Delaware Park, Oct. 1. A native of Venezuela, Sanchez recorded his first career U.S. victory on Party Girl Appeal at Parx Racing, July 16, 2013.

Determined Stud horses lead regional-breds at Keeneland September

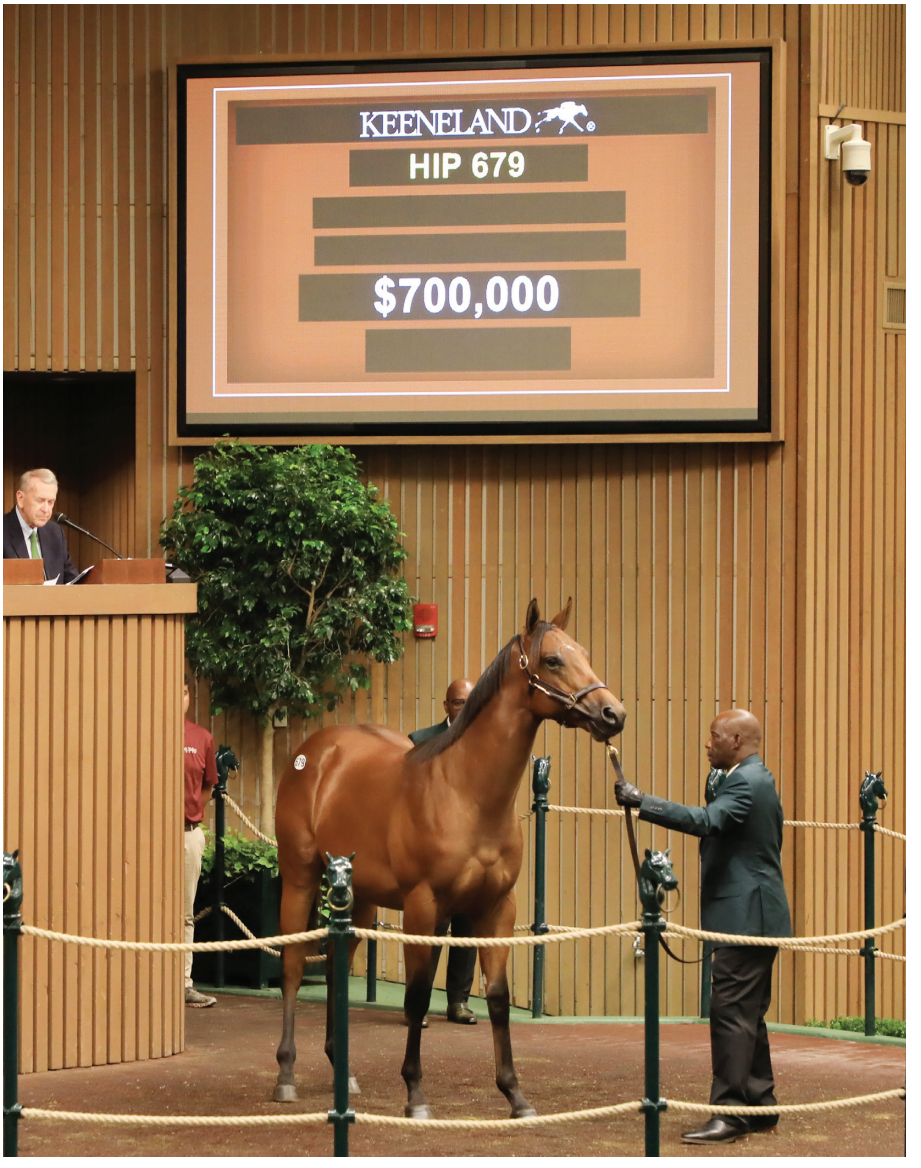
Maryland-breeder Matt Dorman's Determined Stud topped last month's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale by selling a $320,000 filly, but also put up big numbers at the Keeneland September yearling sale in Kentucky.

Selling with Scott Mallory's consignment, five Determined horses brought $1.8 million, led by a $700,000 Into Mischief colt purchased by Donato Lanni as agent for SF Racing/Starlight Racing and Madaket Stable. The bay colt is out of Hollywood Royal, a half-sister to $515,858 earner Laurie's Rocket. Determined paid $425,000 for the mare (carrying the 2022 yearling) in 2020.

Determined sold two other Into Mischief yearlings–a colt out of Grade 3 winner Southern Ring and a filly from the family of champion Lady Eli–for $500,000 and $300,000, respectively. Determined also bred an Uncle Mo filly sold by Glen Hill Farm for $550,000. Out of the stakes-placed Knarsdale, the filly was purchased by Glen Hill for $400,000 as a weanling.

Breeder Larry Johnson's Maryland-bred Constitution colt sold for $600,000 to Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables. The dark bay represents generations of Johnson's breeding program through a female family including Walk of Stars, Star Kell, Special Kell and Ran's Chick. Fourteen Maryland-breds sold for $100,000 or more.

In other regional sales, Ann Backer and Smitten Farm sold a Virginia-bred Audible filly out of Summertime Green for $160,000 while West Virginia breeder Schiano Racing sold a Tonalist colt for $130,000. For more, see full sales results at keeneland.com. ◆



THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

Millionaire Runnin'toluvya retired: Winner of the 2018 Grade 2 Charles Town Classic, Tim and Judy Grams' West Virginia-bred superstar was retired shortly after his 16th career victory Sept. 8. Ted Black reports and looks back at his career.

HISA delay bill introduced in U.S. House: In October, a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas introduced legislation to delay the implementation of HISA until 2024, Frank Vespe reports.

Greg Compton enjoying career year: Delaware trainer Greg Compton, normally a bit under the radar, is enjoying a career 2022 at Delaware Park by making astute claims and staying ready for whatever happens, reports Vespe.

Off the Pace–Scheduling towards full fields: Mike Valiante proposes a new schedule for Mid-Atlantic racing, designed to promote full fields and minimize disruption.

Backtracks–The kingly Henry of Navarre: New Jersey-bred Henry of Navarre found Hall of Fame success on the racetrack and later played a more martial role. Jennifer Kelly tells the story.

STALLION NEWS

Northview to stand multiple graded winner True Valour

True Valour (Ire), a multiple graded stakes-winning miler who also excelled at sprint distances while racing in the United States and Europe, has been retired to Northview Stallion Station in Chesapeake City, Md. He will stand for $3,000 live foal, with multiple mare discounts.

The 8-year-old son of the world record-setting sire Kodiac (GB) campaigned seven seasons. Trained by Graham Motion since purchased by R. Larry Johnson in mid-2020, True Valour returned this spring after more than a year off started three times. He won a stakes at Laurel Park in April and placed in the Jaipur-G1 (third to Casa Creed) at Belmont Park and the Troy-G3 (second, a head behind Golden Pal) at Saratoga.

The layoff came after being injured in the Al Quoz Sprint-G1 on 2021 Dubai World Cup Day in which he finished 2¼ lengths behind the winner.

"True Valour's return to racing in 2022 was remarkable and he displayed more speed than any horse I have ever trained," said Motion. "With his pedigree, ability and conformation I think he has the qualities to be a successful stallion."

Boasting an international pedigree filled with champions and classic winners, True Valour launched his career in Ireland and in his third start battled future Group 1 winner and champion Lancaster Bomber to a nose decision. True Valour won stakes at 3 and 4, including the 7-furlong Ballycorus-G3 at Leopardstown, after which he was sent to the U.S.

He won Santa Anita's Grade 3 Thunder Road Stakes and Grade 2 City of Hope, both at a mile, the latter in a final time of 1:32.82. In 34 starts, 33 on the turf, he won seven, five stakes, and recorded 10 stakes-placings, seven in graded/group stakes. He earned $690,237.

After a victory in the 5½-furlong King T. Leatherbury Stakes in April, Motion commented, "I think he makes me look good. I thought Larry was crazy when he wanted to bring him back from an injury as an 8-year-old. He's just a really easy horse."

True Valour is the first son of Kodiac to stand in the U.S. A son of Danehill and a half-brother to major sire Invincible Spirit, Kodiac is making his mark as a sire of sires, and continues to rank as one of the best stallions in the world. He holds the record for most 2-year-old winners in a single season (63 in 2017), has sired more than 160 stakes performers and is represented by such Group 1 winners as current runner Campanelle (Ire).

From an active female family, True Valour is the first foal out of the winning Irish-bred mare Sutton Veny (by English-bred Acclamation). Her 2-year-old daughter No Kay Never (Ire) won first-time out in May and has since competed in stakes for trainer Wesley Ward and owner Stonestreet Stables, most recently a third in the Woodbine Cares Stakes. Sutton Veny is a half-sister to stakes winner Glorificamus (Ire), dam of stakes winner and graded stakes-placed Fasnacloich.

True Valour's third dam, Caracciola, is also the dam of Two Thousand Guineas-G1 winner Mystiko and behind a far-flung family that has produced high-weighted Irish 2-year-old Basim, Group 1 winners in New Zealand and South Africa and stakes performers in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan and Sweden.

Top Mid-Atlantic sires of 2022

Based on 2022 earnings through Oct. 18

(D-deceased. † Freshman sire)

General earnings

Sire	rnrs	wnrs	earnings
Great Notion (Md)	104	53	$3,565,827
Wicked Strong (Pa)	147	72	3,010,068
Jump Start (Pa-D)	98	51	2,798,436
Uncle Lino (Md)	79	44	2,588,807
Fiber Sonde (WV)	62	39	2,457,781
Golden Lad (Md)	85	49	2,420,808
Mosler (Md)	78	42	2,207,563
Divining Rod (Md)	62	35	2,122,941
Brody's Cause (Pa)	98	42	2,032,454
Weigelia (Pa)	59	40	1,962,607
Bourbon Courage (Md)	62	30	1,937,354
Windsor Castle (WV-D)	78	46	1,729,375
Bandbox (Md-D)	49	25	1,688,907
Warrior's Reward (Pa)	86	43	1,629,518
Blofeld (Md)	32	25	1,410,740
Imagining (Md-D)	63	27	1,373,105
Peace and Justice (Pa)	46	24	1,253,483
Uptowncharlybrown (Pa)	59	19	1,250,172
Holy Boss (Md)	40	18	1,118,099
Buffum (Md-D)	29	17	982,927

2-year-old earnings

Sire	rnrs	wnrs	earnings
Great Notion (Md)	17	10	$381,567
†Hoppertunity (Md)	19	5	365,037
Blofeld (Md)	14	8	342,248
Uptowncharlybrown (Pa)	20	4	320,012
Holy Boss (Md)	11	4	208,802
Mosler (Md)	8	5	202,570
Golden Lad (Md)	13	5	200,488
Weigelia (Pa)	11	6	195,437
Bourbon Courage (Md)	9	5	189,389
Divining Rod (Md)	12	6	180,903

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4/22/22 Filly out of Twirling Annie

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"No matter what was put in front of him, he always tried and gave us 110%. He was a favorite around the barn because of the way he always showed up in a race."
Jeremiah Englehart, trainer

ADAM COGLIANESE PHOTOGRAPHY

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MATCH Series comes down to risk, reward

The risk was running turf mare Deciding Vote over a sloppy Parx Racing track in the final leg of the 2022 Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championships Series, held as the remnants of Hurricane Ian swept through the area Oct. 3. The reward was taking title to the overall championship with 38 points, six more than CJI Phoenix Group and No Guts No Glory Farm's Fille d'Esprit, the latter the 3-Year-Old and Up Fillies and Mares Sprint—Dirt division winner.

Trainer Edward Graham told MATCH officials he targeted Anne and Bill Pape's homebred Deciding Vote to all five races of the 3-Year-Old and Up Fillies and Mares Long—Turf division, because he believed she would fit the competition. The first leg was the Dahlia Stakes at Laurel April 23, which she won. In between she ran fourth in Parx's Neshaminy in June, second in Laurel's Big Dreyfus in July and sixth in Colonial Downs's Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance Old Nelson in August.

Taking a swing at the $100,000 Salvatore DeBunda PTHA President's Cup, the 5-year-old Mr Speaker mare bided her time before rallying down the center of the track and catching Tic Tic Tic Boom near the wire to win by a half-length. Mychel Sanchez said he rode her "as if it was a turf race—she usually lags early and then makes her move. There was no indication she wasn't handling the track."

"This means a lot to Mr. and Mrs. Pape and it means a lot to me," said Graham, based at Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland. "We were so close to the series final and we all said, 'Let's give it a go,' and if she doesn't handle the track tell the jockey to take care of her."

Deciding Vote added extra points to her total with her fifth start—runners earn five points when they run four times, and add two more by starting in all five.

Timory Ridall's Tic Tic Tic Boom also competed in all five races and finished second in the division with 24 points.

"I'm just so happy the only two horses to run in all five legs of a MATCH Series division ran one-two in this race," said Tic Tic Tic Boom's trainer Alan Bedard. "We're happy for them and we're happy for us. It was a wonderful race and I'm thrilled. She'll be 5 years old next year and we want to do the same thing with her—run in the MATCH Series."

Deciding Vote's 12 points with the win sealed the title before Fille d'Esprit had a chance to run in the Roamin Rachel Stakes.

Fille d'Esprit, trained by Jerry Robb, made four starts in the series, winning twice before finishing third in the Roamin Rachel. Being Maryland-bred and sired, the Great Notion mare earned an additional $10,000 ($5,000 bonuses for each) from the Maryland Horse Breeders Association for her breeder Sweet Spirits Stables. She was 10 points ahead of division runner-up Kaylasaurus, who didn't run in the final leg.

Other divisional winners were Eons (23 points) in the 3-Year-Old and Up Long—Turf, and Beren (20 points) in the 3-Year-Old and Up Sprint—Dirt.

Beren and Kaylasaurus earned $5,000 awards for breeders, Susan Quick and Christopher Feifarek, and Arrowwood Farm, respectively, from the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association as the leading Pennsylvania-breds in the series. For final results, news and MATCH rules, visit matchseries.com. ◆

Mid-Atlantic-Bred Stakes Winners September 11—October 8

Maryland-bred

BLIND SPOT, gr./ro.f., 2020, Cross Traffic—Your Flame in Me, by Boundary. B-Country Life Farm & Your Flame in Me; O-C2 Racing Stable & Stefania Farms; T-Saffie A. Joseph Jr. $65,000 Our Dear Peggy S, Gulfstream Park, Sept. 17.

CAN THE QUEEN, b.m., 2016, Can the Man—Queenterra, by Empire Maker. B-Carol Ann Kaye; O/T-Joanne Shankle. $100,000 Sensible Lady Turf Dash S, Pimlico, Sept. 24.

MALIBU BEAUTY, b.f., 2018, Buffum—Slow and Steady, by Malibu Moon. B/O-ZWP Stable & Non Stop Stable; T-Gary Capuano. $100,000 George Rosenberger Memorial S, Delaware Park, Oct. 1.

WHERESHETOLDMETOGO, ch.g., 2015, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. B-David Wade; O-Madaket Stables, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber & BTR Racing; T-Brittany Russell. $100,000 New Castle S, Delaware Park, Sept. 30.

New Jersey-bred

BRAMBLE BAY, b.m., 2016, Bullet Train (GB)—Regal Rose, by Empire Maker. B-Ballybrit Stable; O-Michael Dubb; T-Michael J. Maker. $85,000 Pinot Grigio H, Monmouth Park, Sept. 18.

SMITHWICK'S SPICE, b.g., 2016, Frost Giant—Spicy McHaggis, by Good and Tough. B/O-New Spice Stable; T-Douglas Nunn. $85,000 Joey P. H, Monmouth Park, Sept. 18.

Pennsylvania-bred

BUY LAND AND SEE, gr./ro.h., 2017, Cairo Prince—Twiggles, by Maria's Mon. B/O-Joseph M. Imbesi; T-Guadalupe Preciado. $200,000 Alphabet Soup H, Parx Racing, Sept. 24.

FORTHELUVOFBOURBON, b.g., 2017, Bourbon Courage—Nosubstituteforluv, by Not For Love. B-Hidden Acres 4-D Farm; O-Smart Angle; T-Michael Pino. $100,000 Liberty Bell S, Parx Racing, Oct. 3.

GORDIAN KNOT, b.g., 2020, Social Inclusion—Mia, by Put It Back. B-Mr. & Mrs. Joe Imbesi; O-Joseph M. Imbesi; T-Guadalupe Preciado. $200,000 Prince Lucky S, Parx Racing, Sept. 24.

LOVE IN THE AIR, dk.b./br.f., 2018, Constitution—Lovely Syn, by Freud. B-Blackstone Farm; O-Main Line Racing Stable; T-John Servis. $200,000 Plum Pretty S, Parx Racing, Sept. 24.

MIDNIGHT PARADE, b.f., 2020, Hoppertunity—Bank'n On Gold, by Banker's Gold. B-Elizabeth R. Houghton; O-Hillman Racing; T-T. Bernard Houghton. $200,000 Imply S, Parx Racing, Sept. 24.

NICE ACE, b.g., 2018, Noble Mission (GB)—A Lady With an Ace, by First Samurai. B-Blackstone Farm; O-Robert D. Bone; T-Tim Girten. $75,000 Dobbins Landing S, Presque Isle Downs, Sept. 19.

OXANA, dk.b./br.f., 2018, Uptowncharlybrown—Its My Town, by Cowtown Cat. B-Uptowncharlybrown Stud; O-Tee-N-Jay Farm; T-Timothy A. Hills. $100,000 Roamin Rachel S, Parx Racing, Oct. 3.

PHILADELPHIA BELLE, dk.b./br.m., 2017, Jump Start—Cam's Cousin, by Silver Deputy. B-Nick Polydoros; O-Madison Avenue Racing Stable & Jagger Inc.; T-Jamie Ness. $100,000 Tax Free Shopping Distaff S, Delaware Park, Sept. 30.

West Virginia-bred

ALPINE MOON, ch.m., 2016, Swiss Yodeler—Splendiferous Moon, by Malibu Moon. B-Heinz J. Steinmann; O-Bearowitz; T-Russell E. Davis. $40,000 Autumn WVB Overnight S, Charles Town, Sept. 16.

LIGHTNIN RUNNER, b.f., 2020, Battalion Runner—My Lightnin Strike, by Mineshaft. B-Ronney Brown & Nicole Brown; O-George Nyren; T-Angel M. Rodriguez. $75,000 Rachel's Turn S, Charles Town, Sept. 17.

PAYMENGOLD, dk.b./br.g., 2020, Golden Lad—Loves to Glance, by Not For Love. B/O/T-Dewayne Johnson. $75,000 Henry Mercer Memorial, Charles Town, Sept. 17.

PENGUIN POWER, ch.g., 2015, Fiber Sonde—Aye Robbin, by Robb. B-John McKee; O-David Raim; T-Jeff Runco. $40,000 Last Enchantment WV Overnight S, Charles Town, Sept. 17.

SILKY SERENA, gr./ro.f., 2019, Fiber Sonde—Safe At First, by Honour and Glory. B-Cynthia O'Bannon; O-Cynthia E. McKee; T-John D. McKee. $50,000 Blue and Gold S, Charles Town, Oct. 8.

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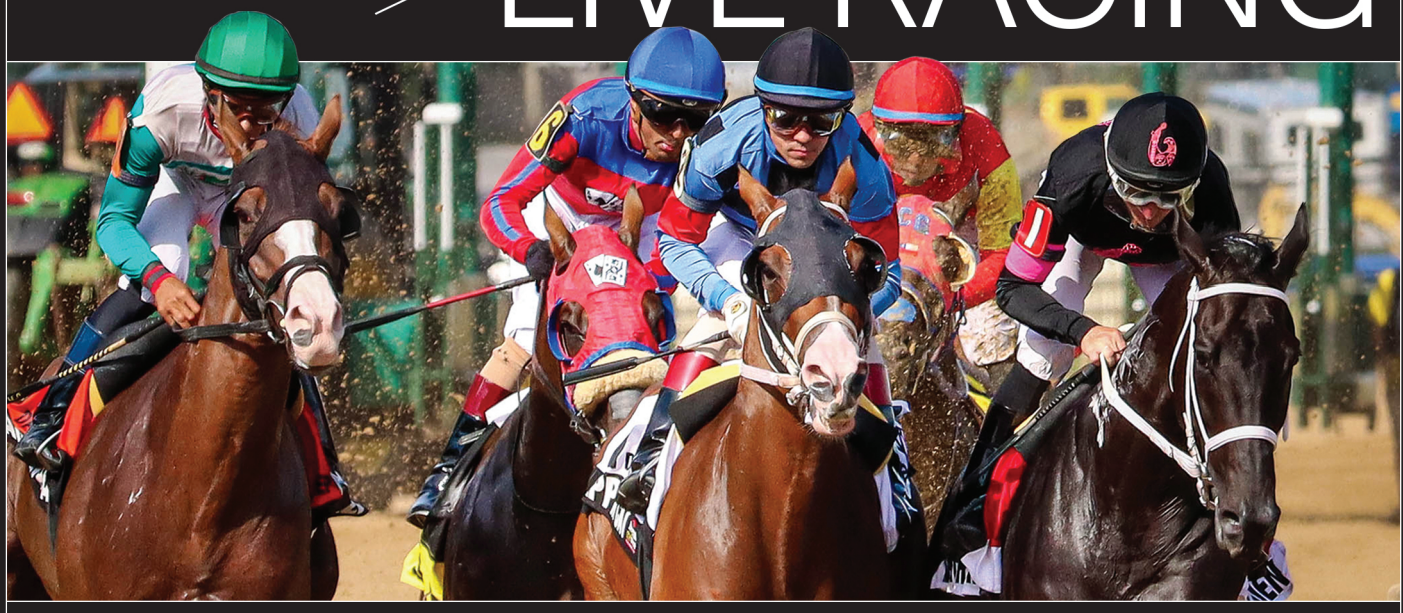

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Mirahmadi leaves booth at Monmouth Park

By John Piassek

The seeds of Frank Mirahmadi's eight-year tenure as the announcer at Monmouth Park were planted 18 years prior, in Massachusetts by way of Florida.

"The first time I visited Monmouth was 1998. I had a friend at Hialeah Park [near Miami, Fla., where Mirahmadi was the announcer from 1996 to 2001] who had a friend in New Jersey, and they came to visit me when I was announcing at the Great Barrington Fair in Massachusetts. They said, "We've got to take you to New Jersey, and we'll introduce you to the best pizza you've ever had.' "

Mirahmadi made good on that idea, taking a trip to The Meadowlands in 1997 to watch Behrens upset Touch Gold in the Pegasus Handicap. The next year, he made his first trip to Monmouth: "I was struck by how beautiful it was. Mr. [John] Brunetti owned Hialeah when I worked there, and his Red Oak Stable raced a lot of horses up there, so I had that connection."

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

When the longtime voice of Monmouth, Larry Collmus, announced his departure in 2014, Mirahmadi saw the job as a natural fit. At the time, Mirahmadi was the announcer at Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Ark., as well as at the northern California fairs. "I was very optimistic about the job. I talked to Bob Kulina for a while, and we were on the phone for a solid 12-13 minutes. I remember it because I was announcing at Oaklawn that day, and the interview lasted from the time I wrapped up my pre-race analysis right to post time."

Mirahmadi was disappointed when he didn't get the job, but the door quickly re-opened as Travis Stone stayed just one season. "Bob reached out and asked if I was still interested. It meant a lot that they reached out. I knew that if they reached out, rather than me reaching out to them, they were still really interested. I went out to interview in the snow, and within a few minutes, I knew I wanted to work at Monmouth."

The news became official in February 2015. Mirahmadi made his Monmouth debut May 9, opening day. His tenure got off to an auspicious beginning, as fog enveloped the track and left him unable to see much. The horses emerged into clearer view as they approached the sixteenth pole, and Mirahmadi called Mello Groove home as his first winner. Fortunately, the fog dissipated by mid-day, and the rest of the card went off without a hitch.

There was a learning curve, as there always is at a new track, but he adjusted. "Over time, you become familiar with the names and the connections. When you start, you're seeing new horses in every race, but you adjust. It helped that there's a lot of Florida people at Monmouth, and I knew them from their Hialeah days."

The toughest part, he said, was the location of the booth. "The finish line is far from the booth, so you really can't call close photos."

Once settled in, Mirahmadi quickly fell in love with the Jersey Shore oval. "It's a beautiful place to work. Everyone there is great, and I built a lot of great relationships."

His first Haskell Invitational-G1 was memorable. American Pharoah made his first start since completing the sweep of the Triple Crown. A record 60,983 fans jammed Monmouth to watch him win in a hand ride.

Mirahmadi delivered a memorable stretch call: "They're at the top of the stretch, and America's horse has opened up! American Pharoah, with that majestic stride, pouring it on through the stretch! Keen Ice runs into second! American Pharoah, the party continues, as he ROLLS HOME in the Haskell!"

Mirahmadi announced the full season at Monmouth for the first four years. His second year, 2016, was his most difficult. That August, he underwent emergency colon surgery and missed a few weeks in the booth. He was diagnosed with colon cancer and underwent a second surgery that November. Mirahmadi battled the disease through months of treatment, called

the entire 2017 season, and was declared cancer-free in September of that year.

A dream came true for the Southern California native when he was named announcer at Santa Anita Park in 2018. The seasons overlap by a few weeks and Mirahmadi was unsure if Monmouth would be amenable to him missing time at the start of the meet, but management made it work.

Mirahmadi had filled in for 10 days at Santa Anita in 2014, and shared announcing duties with Michael Wrona during the 2015-16 winter season. Jason Beem filled in as the announcer for the first few weeks of the 2019 season at Monmouth, and Mirahmadi announced the Covid-delayed 2020 season in its entirety. Chris Griffin started the 2021 and 2022 seasons in the booth.

Not long after starting at Monmouth, Mirahmadi branched into other prominent East Coast tracks. "I got involved with the New York Racing Association in 2017, when I left Golden Gate Fields to share announcing duties at the Aqueduct winter meet. I built a good relationship with John Imbriale and the NYRA team, so I was an easy fit to fill in as a backup. I got to fill in at all three NYRA tracks."

That relationship proved helpful this year, when Imbriale, the full-time announcer in New York since 2020, announced he was reducing his schedule. Mirahmadi was named announcer at historic Saratoga Race Course Sept. 4, bringing an end to his time at Monmouth.

"I was perfectly content and extremely happy with Monmouth, but Saratoga is something else. When an opportunity like that comes along, you have to take it."

Closing day of the 2022 season was bittersweet. Motawaafeq crossed the wire first in the last race, putting his name in the books as the final winner called by Mirahmadi at Monmouth. He punctuated his call with a heartfelt, "Thank you, Monmouth Park!"

Griffin will take over as the full-time announcer, after calling races at Parx Racing, Sam Houston Race Park, and the northern California fairs, among other locales. "He's a great person and he's got a great voice. He's come a long way in a short amount of time."

Although Mirahmadi is moving on, he won't soon forget his tenure on the Jersey Shore.

"I'm very sad to leave Monmouth. There's so many great people here, and I was very lucky to have them and work with them. I'm eternally grateful and I'll miss them a lot. I look forward to going as a fan. I've spent so much time in the booth, there's still a lot of places at the track I haven't had time to see." ◆

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Adirondack King

MAGGIE KIMMITT

Greg Newell is the first to admit he's often late to a party.

"I got into horse racing late, but I got into riding really late," Newell said. "I started riding at 50 and eventing at 56. Nobody does that."

Well, most people don't. And most people don't find themselves with a multiple stakes winner from one of their first involvements in the industry. But that's exactly what Newell did.

In 2010, John Leonard, an early partner in West Point Thoroughbreds, was putting together a group to purchase yearlings. Retiring from a successful insurance career, he was researching young horses and assembling a new partnership, Lionheart Stables. Three months into the venture, Leonard was diagnosed with brain cancer, and his prognosis was dire.

Newell and several others attended the Keeneland September yearling sale on Leonard's behalf. Accompanied by trainer John Servis, the partners focused on a slightly undersized son of Lawyer Ron. The colt's dam, Jostle, won multiple graded stakes for Servis and Fox Hill Farms.

Her dark bay colt had the bloodlines to suggest a hefty price tag. Lawyer Ron won six graded stakes, including the Woodward-G1 and Whitney-G1 in 2007 before being voted champion older horse. He retired with earnings of $2,790,008. Jostle, also the winner of six graded stakes, was a superstar at 3, winning the Black-Eyed Susan-G2, Coaching Club American Oaks-G1, Alabama-G1 and the Cotillion-G2 at Servis' Parx Racing base. In 2001, she sold at the Keeneland November breeding stock sale for $1.7 million.

"We were still coming out of the recession," Newell said, "so we went in there knowing the market was still very soft and we had a chance to get some horses we otherwise could not afford."

He was right. Lionheart Stables bought Jostle's son for $55,000 and named him Adirondack King.

"That name is in honor of John Leonard, who loved the Adirondacks," said Newell. "He had a house up there, so this horse has always had a deeply personal connection to our group. The reason we bought him was because John told us to go ahead and do it."

Leonard did not live to see his namesake run, passing away at 61 in February 2011. Lionheart Stables morphed into MarchFore Thoroughbreds, and 2-year-old Adirondack King joined Servis at Parx in 2011. The Kentucky-bred stayed for six years and 46 starts, amassing seven wins, 10 seconds, seven thirds and a $578,554 bankroll.

Adirondack King rewarded them with two starts on the 2012 Kentucky Derby trail at Oaklawn Park. He finished third in the Southwest Stakes-G3, and seventh a month later in the Rebel-G2.

"The joy we had, we got to run in both the Southwest and the Rebel," Newell said. "And we're with 40,000 people at the Rebel, just in complete awe. Larry got us here."

"Larry" was the nickname given Adirondack King by Eclipse Award-winning photographer Kim Pratt, a Parx employee and close friend of Servis and wife Sherry.

"For six years, Kim had such a bond with him, it was crazy. He'd get annoyed if she didn't come over to him right away; he'd start kicking. He's a good, solid-looking guy, but he had this stinkin' wimpy tail when he came to us. It was like it had been cut in half or something . . . I don't know what the hell happened. It took forever to grow, and Kim would bust on him—'When are you gonna be a boy and grow a tail?'"

The tail grew back, and the boy became a man who ran for seven seasons. He started at Tampa Bay Downs, Gulfstream Park, Oaklawn Park, Aqueduct, Mountaineer and all over the Mid-Atlantic before retiring a sound 8-year-old after a fourth in the Carl Hanford Memorial at Delaware Park July 15, 2017.

"I remember his last race; he was trying but it was hard to keep up," Newell said. "John and I looked at each other and said

there was no way in our hearts we could ever let him drop to the claiming ranks.

"I committed to keep him forever as an honor to John Leonard."

Adirondack King's transition to his second career was quick and seamless, thanks to Newell's network. His riding instructor, Bonnie Wallace, recommended he send the horse to Alexa Lapp, a former student who moved on to work with top-level eventing competitor Jennie Brannigan. Then a teenager, Lapp developed an immediate rapport with Adirondack King. The initial plan was for Lapp and Brannigan to work with the gelding to the point where he would be a suitable mount for Newell.

"I'm a beginner novice-type rider, and he advanced so quickly it was clear he was going to be much better than that," Newell said. "Seven years of training as a racehorse—which he loved—took a long time to peel away. It wasn't an issue of jumping, it was just that he was going to race to every jump. It took a long time to get him to relax.

"Each year, Jennie figures him out a little bit more. Alexa understands what he wants; they've gained trust, and it's amazing. He's loved at the barn because he's a real character. He's an attention-seeker who loves everybody. He's got an amazing personality, and everyone in Jennie's world knows Larry."

Lapp and Adirondack King now compete at the preliminary level, and Brannigan is confident the horse can advance to intermediate.

"One of the most helpful things about retraining a racehorse is to know how they were trained at the track," Lapp said. "I'm lucky because I work under Jennie Brannigan, who spent years galloping racehorses. She helped me a lot. It took time to get him to trust me, but he was always a great jumper which made the transition easy. He wasn't the biggest fan of dressage, but has compromised now that he understands he gets to jump afterward. I admire the horse for how athletic and stoic he is. He is the best cross-country horse; he's brave, careful and obviously easy to go fast on. He makes my job easy."

In late August, owner/breeder Pavla Nygaard called Brannigan about a potential mount for 14-year-old daughter Keira in the Real Rider Cup charity show-jumping event at Fair Hill, Md.

"Alexa immediately suggested that Larry try it. We had no idea what was going to happen or how he would react to it," Newell said. "Keira Nygaard was on him for 30 minutes before going into the ring, and he went in and performed magnificently. The smile on Keira's face afterward is something I'll never forget. Aftercare is so important to us, so for him to be in the Real Rider Cup, it was a dream to me. It brought tears to my eyes."

Servis knows the feeling. Newell keeps him updated with videos, and the trainer enjoys every minute. After nearly seven years of caring for the horse every day, the connection remains deep.

"It's wonderful what Adirondack King did, but in many ways he's no different than the horse I bred who won $1,000," Newell said. "But here they are having successful second careers, and how cool is that? These are talented athletes, and it's just about finding the niche that works for them. Do that, and they will give you their heart and soul." ◆

It's been a lovely Autumn

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TOD MARKS

Horsemen's group can help HISA find its footing

It's a pretty simple press release, but it might be the best move the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority has made in its short existence.

An Oct. 17 announcement identified 19 members of HISA's first horsemen's advisory group from an application pool of more than 250 people. The group starts meeting this month to provide feedback to the authority's executive team and standing committees on the implementation and evolution of HISA's racetrack safety and anti-doping and medication control regulations.

HISA announced the intent to create an advisory group in late August and sought applications. The members represent a broad range of views and experience from across the racing community. Trainers, owners and veterinarians are included, as are representatives of racing offices, backstretch employees, farriers and aftercare initiatives. Members will serve between one- and two-year terms. The group includes:

Hall of Fame trainer Mark Casse.

Trainer Kelsey Danner, based at Palm Meadows in Florida and at Delaware Park.

Trainer Tom Drury, a board member of the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association and Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders.

Trainer Linda Gaudet, vice president of the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association. Backstretch worker representative.

Rick Gold, chair of the Thoroughbred Owners of California's Integrity and Safety Committee and a Thoroughbred owner in California and Australia.

Trainer Donnie Von Hemel.

Delawarean Fred Hertrich III, former chairman of the Breeders' Cup Board of Directors and proprietor of Watercress Farm in Paris, Ky. Also the harness-racing representative.

Owner and bloodstock agent David Ingordo.

Owner and horseplayer Frank Jones, vice chairman of the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission and Kentucky Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association.

Maryland-based trainer Tim Keefe, president of the MTHA.

Dr. Sara Langsam, veterinarian with Teigland, Franklin, and Brokken, based at Belmont Park. One of two veterinarian representatives.

Trainer Ron Moquett.

Maggi Moss, an attorney and Thoroughbred owner with horses in Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana and New York.

Maryland trainer Graham Motion.

Dr. John Piehowicz, veterinarian and founder of Cincinnati Equine. One of two veterinarian representatives.

Tom Robbins, executive vice president, racing and industry relations at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club and the group's racing office representative.

Trainer Rick Schosberg, vice president of the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, president of Take2 Second Career Thoroughbreds.

Thomas Trosin, a second-generation farrier and past president of the American Farriers Association. The group's farrier representative.

Owner Kirk Wycoff, proprietor of Three Diamonds Farm.

The group will go a long way toward assuring racing participants that HISA is the way forward after an at times chaotic 2022—and it's long overdue. HISA, created by federal legislation in 2020, tackled the massive job of creating—somewhat from scratch—national racing rules that would apply to all Thoroughbred races run in the country while trying to figure out how to meld those rules into the existing state racing-commission structure.

The racetrack safety program went into effect July 1, but came with confusion about registration (human and horse), whip rules for jockeys, shoe rules for horses and guidelines for stewards. The Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association chapters in several states filed lawsuits, as did The Jockeys Guild. The Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, a HISA supporter, took a more cooperative stance but still pointed out problems.

HISA's job only gets bigger. The anti-doping and medication control component is supposed to start in January. Horsemen input is crucial and the advisory group will play a big role.

Buy-in and support from horsemen are key ingredients to the future of HISA, and the hope for reform. Owners and trainers I talk to pretty much all agree on the need for national rules and changes. They don't agree on some of the steps taken by HISA in its early days and feel the frustration of trying to follow the rules while also seeing mistakes such as improper disqualifications for whip violations. Furthermore, those owners and trainers wish HISA had first tackled other issues such as licensing or penalties/suspensions instead of horseshoes and whip use.

A horsemen's advisory group might have pointed out those key issues earlier, and should have been one of HISA's first steps. ◆

UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN

CRUSHES THE COMPETITION

#1 LEADING SIRE of 2YOs in PA

Leading sires of 2YOs in Pennsylvania as of Oct. 17, 2022

Rank	Sire	2022 Stud Fee / Farm	Foals	Rnrs / Wnrs	BTWnrs / % Rnrs	BTHrs / % Rnrs	GSWnrs / G1Wnrs	AWD	Chief Earner (Earnings)	Progeny Earnings (Avg. Earnings per Rnr)
1	**Uptowncharlybrown** Limehouse (2007)	$7,500 WynOaks Farm, PA	140	**20** / 4	0 / 0.0%	**3** / 15.0%	0 / 0	5.13f	**Keithsendshelloooo ($90,504)**	**$320,012** ($16,001)
2	**Weigelia** Safely's Mark (2001)	Private WynOaks Farm, PA	198	11 / **6**	**1** / **9.1%**	1 / 9.1%	0 / 0	5.21f	Ninetyprcentmaddie ($89,280)	$195,437 ($17,767)
3	**Brody's Cause** Giant's Causeway (2013)	$3,500 Equistar Training and Breeding, PA	172	15 / 3	0 / 0.0%	0 / 0.0%	0 / 0	5f	Hurricane Debbie ($69,993)	$162,231 ($10,815)
4	**Wicked Strong** Hard Spun (2011)	$3,500 Pin Oak Lane Farm, PA	332	14 / 3	0 / 0.0%	1 / 7.1%	0 / 0	5.17f	Wickedblackbullet ($31,974)	$122,970 ($8,784)
5	**Peace and Justice** War Front (2010)	$3,500 Blackstone Farm PA, PA	93	6 / 1	0 / 0.0%	1 / 16.7%	0 / 0	**5.5f**	Dontlookbackatall ($66,750)	$115,210 ($19,202)
6	**Warrior's Reward** Medaglia d'Oro (2006)	Private WynOaks Farm, PA	630	11 / 3	0 / 0.0%	0 / 0.0%	0 / 0	5.17f	Warrior's Ransom ($28,788)	$103,313 ($9,392)

FROM BLOODHORSE.COM

4th Leading Mid-Atlantic sire of 2YOs

•

In the 2022 $600,000 PA-Sired Stallion series, Uptowncharlybrown 2YOs tallied THREE seconds and a third:

Keithsendshelloooo
2nd Prince Lucky S, 2nd Whistle Pig S
Marion Grace
2nd Miss Blue Tye Dye S
Upstate and Back
3rd Whistle Pig S

In 2023, the PA-Sired Stallion series will be worth $1 million ~ for 2YOs by PA Sires ONLY!

#1 Mid-Atlantic Stallion:
By number of 2YO runners
By number of 2YO BTHs

INFLATION BUSTER STUD FEE
$3,250
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Inquiries to
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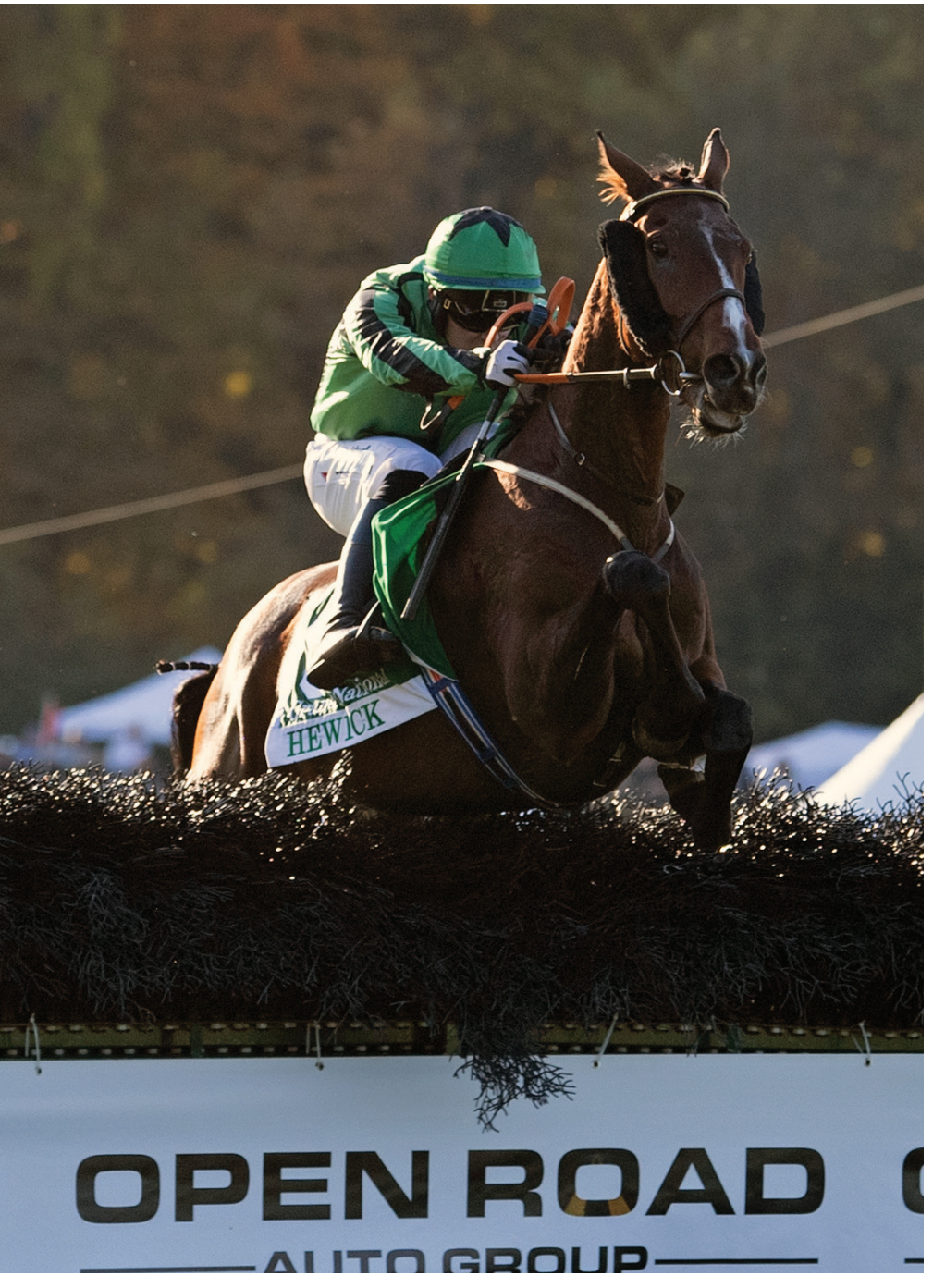
Jump the Shark

Irish raider wins Grand National in a romp

BY SEAN CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOD MARKS



Guy Torsilieri met John "Shark" Hanlon at the Far Hills finish line Oct. 15, minutes after Hanlon's Hewick (Ire) dominated the richest United States steeplechase of the year. In the midst of an Irish scrum, an Italian from New Jersey asked a question of an Irishman from Kilkenny.

"You coming back?" the Far Hills Races chairman asked.

"I'll be back," Hanlon answered in a brogue that rattled the brisk evening air. "I'll be back."

Then the towering trainer with a towering horse waved an Irish flag and a gaggle of Irish leapt into a Spanish-turned-Irish football tune to celebrate a win in the $250,000 American Grand National-G1.

"Ole…Ole…Ole…Ole…Ole…Ole…"

Hewick, who got his nickname as an 18-year-old hurler (Irish lacrosse player might be the best description), deserved nothing else.

Purchased for €850 at Goresbridge horses in training sale in 2017, the 7-year-old son of Virtual (GB) won his eighth career race (four over hurdles and four over chase fences) in a facile score against America's best, including three-time Grade 1 winner Snap Decision. Owned by TJ McDonald and ridden by 21-year-old Jordan Gainford, Hewick galloped relentlessly, jumped flawlessly and showed where a 167-rated horse ranks on American soil.

Above it, to be sure.

Sent off second choice behind Snap Decision, Hewick secured a comfortable spot just off American-based Pistol Whipped (GB) and British invader Global Citizen (Ire), loped easily in the clear and stormed up the final hill to win by 11½ lengths over Noah and the Ark (Ire) and Ask Paddington (Ire). Snap Decision ran in snatches before fading to sixth, the first time the 8-year-old has finished worse than second in his 18-race jump career. Hewick finished 2⅝ miles over yielding ground in 5:11.60.

"Look, magic. He didn't put a foot wrong, he just loves galloping," Gainford said. "He got to the front and took a look and the minute I gave him a click, he came back in my hands alive again, he's a great horse to be associated with and thanks to Shark and TJfor bringing me over here."

Irish raider Hewick jets over the last fence in the American Grand National at Far Hills.

They could have looked elsewhere. Gainford climbed aboard Hewick, then rated 126 in a novice chase at Killarney in July 2021. The five-pound apprentice and the horse who failed to finish his first three point-to-point starts and took 15 tries to win his first race finished second that day. Three winless starts later, Gainford got back on board to win a handicap hurdle at Listowel.

From there, it's been climbing steps, sometimes, two or three at a time, as Hewick picked up a handicap chase at Sedgefield in England, won the Bet365 Chase at Sandown in England and upset Ireland's prestigious Galway Plate in July. There were a couple of blips, none bigger than a race-for-the-taking last-fence fall in the Kerry National at Listowel in his start before the Grand National. Gainford tried to brush it off while knowing every mount is up for grabs.

Trainer Shark Hanlon (left) and owner TJ McDonald flank Jordan Gainford after the Grade 1 win.

"Fair play to TJ, they could have got who they liked over here to ride the horse, everyone else coming over, Sean Flanagan, Davy Russell, they're top, top lads. I don't know why they stuck with me, it's a good question, ask TJ," Gainford said. "Look it, you had to be upset after Listowel. I was, they could see that. TJ said, 'Move on, we'll have more days,' and that brought us here.

"It's racing. My idol is Davy Russell, he's ridden two winners here today, he's had great days and he's had some very bad days. I rang Davy straightaway, and he said, 'Look, I don't think you could have done anything different.' It was just one of those things, speed and momentum, he caught the top of it and just knuckled over. Momentum."

Hewick had all the momentum in the Grand National. Utilizing stamina that had him in contention going 3 miles on good ground in the Kerry National and cruising speed that had him on the lead on summer ground in the 2¾-mile Galway Plate, the athletic bay gelding slid easily into third from the outside, just off Pistol Whipped and Global Citizen and outside Snap Decision.

"Jumped off and went a good, even gallop," Gainford said. "I thought it was the best good gallop he's went."

Like he still had the stabilizing ear of Russell on the phone, Gainford kept it simple, sitting still when Hewick stood off at a few of his fences and allowing for Hewick to take command jumping the third-last. Sliding to the inside, Hewick skipped over the second-last and sauntered to the lead as Noah and the Ark, Belfast Banter (Ire), Ask Paddington and Snap Decision chased like kids after an ice-cream truck. None could counter Hewick's relentlessness.

Hewick jinked left once, then twice, approaching the last as many do when they leave the inside loop. Gainford gathered and regrouped, and they met the last perfectly. Riding under the long-forgotten, no-hit whip rules of New Jersey (that's a long story for another day), Gainford did nothing more than change his hold and pump his whip at the finish.

"When I turned to jump the last, he had a slight look, he idles in front, but look, if a horse came to him, he would have picked up, he's an idling type of horse," Gainford said. "He's run in some top-class races but the way he hit the hill there after going a gallop after 2 miles, that was serious, that was some feeling. It's magic."

And the man who pulled the hare out of the bonnet was Shark Hanlon. A character in a game of characters, he went to the Goresbridge Sale five years ago, he said they call it a half-bred sale and it is well known as a source for sporthorse prospects, to look on a lark and wound up with a legend.

"He was a great walking horse. I love a good walking horse. Paddy Mullins said years ago, 'If they can't walk, they can't run.' I was a great admirer of Paddy Mullins, I learned a lot of things from him. We were neighbors," Hanlon said of the legendary trainer. "No, you don't think of things like this. He's a real horse. Just a real horse. The owners have no interest in selling him, no issues, for me, it's great. I own a bit of him myself."

Hanlon had seen Irish stalwarts Gordon Elliott and Willie Mullins plunder Far Hills and put a plan into action for Hewick to win the second biggest paycheck of his storied career.

"I had it in mind for a good while. The prize money is brilliant. When you have a horse good enough, you bring him. This horse will be minded and you'll see him again next year. That's my plan," Hanlon said. "It's unreal. I'm after having winners everywhere, we've had no winner in Cheltenham yet, but we could have a Gold Cup in mind. He's a good horse, I'd say he would go straight for a Gold Cup. He's improving, this horse is improving. The ground today came perfect for him. I was afraid coming over, maybe the ground firm, the rain came Thursday, not too many people in America were doing a rain dance here on Thursday. I did."

At six-feet something tall and three-feet something wide, Hanlon would have an advantage in any rain dance and the rain came two days before the sport's biggest day, swaying the scales a bit further for the strong Irish team that competed at Far Hills. Three Irish-based horses won and Irish-breds swept six of the seven races.

"This lad handles good ground, if he didn't handle good ground, he wouldn't be here," Hanlon said with an arm around his 15-year-old pony-racing son Paddy. "Listen, it's great, an achievement for us, to have the family here, it's unreal so it is, this lad looks after him at home."

And if he wins the holiest of the holy grails, the Cheltenham Gold Cup in March, would he really come back to America to defend his title?

"I think I will. I think I will. I just love it. I love the place. I love the people.

The Insider streaks to an easy win in the Gladstone for 3-year-olds.

Ted Hastings (center) takes aim at Howyabud on the way to a win in the Foxbrook novice stakes.

Redicean powers away with the Appleton, a handicap hurdle.

We're after having a ball. That's what it's all about. This is what the sport is about," Hanlon said. "The people around this place, if they see the celebrations we had today, maybe they'll buy a horse, not with me, with someone else, everyone deserves to get a chance at this game. If they want to give me a horse, lovely, but go down to their neighbor and give them a horse. That's my motto and that's my motto all the time. It could happen. It could happen."

Hewick and Hanlon made it happen.

Far Hills Undercard

Davy Russell stood to the side of the Grand National festivities, holding a saddle and a sweat-stained pile of equipment, eating a bag of crisps and looking off in admiration.

The Irish icon had won two on the day and now held Gainford's tack. A jockey, a valet, Russell didn't care.

"This is a good horse. He was going to win a Kerry National with top weight and you don't win a Galway Plate unless you have a quality horse," Russell said. "To be honest with you, it would have taken an exceptional horse to beat him here, he's a good horse, in good form, trained by a good man."

Earlier, before he became a valet for a kid half his age, Russell guided The Insider (Ire) to win the Gladstone Hurdle and Ted Hastings (Ire) to win the Foxbrook Champion Hurdle for Elliott. It only looked easy.

"We have a lot of pressure, like, we're coming a long way and you need to get results so there's a lot of pressure coming here. They're not easy to win. It's good racing. It's good racing," Russell said. "It's not simple to come here. Gordon picks out horses and we try our best, try to get a bit of experience into him, especially the juveniles. You need a good horse, you can't just pick anyone, you need one that will travel over well. It's no point coming here half-cocked, these guys over here know what they're doing.'

Owned by Kenny and Laura Haughey and Kieran Byrne, The Insider put a two-race experience edge to good use in the 3-year-old hurdle, cruising on the lead to crush six overmatched American-based rivals. A race later, Russell engineered a mid-pack move from Ted Hastings to grind out a three-quarter length decision over Howyabud (Ire) in the $75,000 novice stakes. Owned by Aidan Ryan, the son of Imperial Monarch (Ire) improved his jump record to four wins from seven starts.

Veteran Redicean (GB) returned to his best form to win the restricted Appleton Stakes handicap hurdle for Sharon Sheppard, trainer Leslie Young and Irish-based jockey Sean Flanagan. Young added blinkers to the hard-trying 8-year-old after three losses in Grade 1 company this summer. The son of Medicean (GB) drew off to win by 4 lengths over Theocrat (Ire) and Soviet Pimpernel (Ire). Redicean ticked over $300,000 in career earnings with his 10th win (six over hurdles and three on the flat) . . . Ljay (Ire) kicked off the card with an upset in the Harry E. Harris for 4-year-olds. Owned by Belle Meade Jockey Club and the International Venture, the son of Champs Elysees (GB) pulled off a half-length win over Maryland-bred Who's Counting and Proven Innocent. Trained by Keri Brion and ridden by Parker Hendriks, Ljay picked up his second 4-year-old stakes win of the season . . . Jockey Bernie Dalton cajoled and corralled a hard-pulling Agitare (Ire) to win the inaugural running of the John Forbes Memorial, a 2-mile flat stakes worth $100,000, for Brion and owners Molly and Paul Willis, CFC Stable, Danny and Sheila Kelly and LF Racing. The son of Teofilo (Ire) ran down Monmouth-based Basso, trained by Greg Sacco and ridden by Nik Juarez, to win by 4 lengths. Millionaire Cross Border finished third . . . Riverdee Stable's Cool Jet (Ire) won the nightcap, a $50,000 maiden hurdle, added to this year's card. Because of low sun, stewards omitted six of the 11 hurdles in the 2⅛-mile contest. Cool Jet won a bumper for Willie Mullins in Ireland before going 0-for-3 for Brian Ellison in England. Owner Pat Boyle took a chance and sent the son of Jet Away (GB) to Jack Fisher in late spring. The bay gelding made his debut at Foxfield and came back two weeks later to win the richest maiden race of the season . . . The richest National Steeplechase Association meet of the season at $625,000, Far Hills featured pari-mutuel wagering and complete coverage on America's Day at the Races via Fox Sports 2.

Upset City

Noah and the Ark shines in Gr. 1 win for McKenna

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOD MARKS

Trainer Todd McKenna might not have gaudy statistics or champion horses, but he's not about to change his training approach—especially after Noah and the Ark (Ire) upset Snap Decision in the $150,000 Lonesome Glory Handicap-G1 at Aqueduct Racetrack Sept. 15.

"My horses are out 12 hours a day and they're in 12 hours a day, I don't know if that's right, I've always done it this way, it just works," said the Pennsylvanian in the winner's circle. "It's harder to get the hurdle horses sharp enough so I did use Fair Hill [with Noah and the Ark], I did go to Fair Hill and have a couple works down there so that helped."

That and a quality horse. The 8-year-old Vinnie Roe (Ire) gelding won four hurdle races in England for trainer Donald McCain Jr. before McKenna met English jump jockey Harry Beswick (whose cousin Bart owned the horse) at Saratoga in 2019 and struck a deal while watching video on a mobile phone and talking horses late one night.

After breakfast at The Horseshoe outside the Nelson Avenue stable gate the next morning, they struck a deal to send the then 5-year-old gelding to America. The experiment stalled in two starts during the height of the pandemic in 2020—a seventh and a sixth—in mid-level handicap company. McKenna aimed for 2021, and sent his horse to the Carolina Cup at Camden, S.C., in May. With Beswick aboard for the first time in nearly two years, Noah and the Ark won the handicap hurdle by 3 lengths.

Tendonitis in both front legs sent the chestnut to the sidelines on McKenna's farm until the Lonesome Glory, where he ousted heavy favorite Snap Decision and six others in the 2½-mile race. Off the nearly 16-month layoff, Noah and the Ark was assigned 140 pounds compared to Snap Decision's 168 as steeplechasing returned to the New York City racetrack for the first time since 1974.

The 8-year-old rated early as Snap Decision wound up in front and was pressed by Iranistan, and then Song For Someone (Ger). Snap Decision led with a lap to go as the winner drafted into fourth. Noah and the Ark moved to third by the backside and headed to the last fence as the only potential winner other than Snap Decision.

Beswick loved where he was, but still worried.

"I was fully expecting him to be there after the last fence, which is still quite a long ways from home," he said. "I knew he was good enough to do that, but to go past Snap Decision the way he did, I'm not sure I expected that. It was a very, very competitive field. I'm absolutely shook."

Noah and the Ark took over on the turn and drew off to score in 4:34.83 for 2½ miles. It was the first Grade 1 for the trainer, also the co-owner as Keystone Thoroughbreds, and jockey. Snap Decision stayed for second, three-quarters of a length ahead of Ask Paddington (Ire). Bred in Ireland by J.A. Slattery, Noah and the Ark won for the sixth time in 14 starts over jumps and earned $90,000 to push his lifetime earnings to $136,338. The winner paid $84.50 as the second-longest shot on the board.

When he imported the horse in 2019, McKenna wasn't banking on a pandemic-shortened season in 2020, the tendon issues last year or even a chance at a Grade 1. The former amateur steeplechase jockey who got into racing while watching his father John compete as an amateur in the 1980s and 1990s owns Ferguson McKenna Supply with his twin brother Trevor. The company supplies hangers, pads, covers, bags, detergents, solvents and more to dry cleaners, laundries, hotels, etc. in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and New York. The racehorse training operation wouldn't necessarily compare to something you'd see at a racetrack.

Noah and the Ark (right) bides his time alongside Amschel early in the Lonesome Glory, the first jump race at Aqueduct Racetrack since 1974.

Winning a Grade 1, in New York, off the farm didn't seem plausible—not to a trainer known more for prepping timber horses for spring tests in Maryland. His Mystic Strike finished second in the My Lady's Manor in April, and Shootist won the maiden at the Grand National a week later. Then McKenna's horses lost for nearly five months—over timber, over hurdles, on the flat, whatever.

"I went back to April and if you take my horses and all the races I ran, I've netted like zero," he said. "Not that this is about money but I'm like, 'Dude, what are you doing?' I was really doubting myself and thought, 'This horse all summer in the fields he has been absolutely flying around the fields, like a monster.' He came into the race perfectly, he's really grown up. I'm like, 'What's the worst thing that can happen?' And here we are. We know what the best thing is."

One race before the Lonesome Glory, defending Eclipse Award winner The Mean Queen (Ire) settled for second when caught in the final yards by 4-year-old Proven Innocent in the $75,000 William Entenmann Memorial for novice hurdlers going 2⅜ miles.

Owned by Bruton Street-US and trained by Jack Fisher, the son of Blame and jockey Jamie Bargary let five rivals handle the details while saving ground for the first mile, advanced on the final turn and—in a mirror image of his allowance win at Saratoga Aug. 31—wore down the leader through the stretch to prevail by a head at almost 9-1. The Mean Queen, making her first start in 11 months, finished second while 6¾ lengths clear of Howyabud (Ire).

A maiden winner on the turf for breeder Stuart Janney III and Shug McGaughey at Belmont Park last September, Proven Innocent was fourth in his hurdle debut in April, won at the Iroquois in May, finished second at Saratoga July 27 and won two in a row. The gray gelding is a half-brother to standout Janney flat runners Norumbega and Ironicus among others.

Race Meets Return

Maryland's Shawan Downs meet kickstarted the autumn season Sept. 24 as jump racing returned from a summer at Colonial Downs and Saratoga Race Course. Shawan's card featured the $35,000 Brown Advisory timber stakes, which produced a showdown between the division's top two Andi'amu (Fr) and Storm Team.

They traded decisions in the spring with Storm Team winning the Middleburg Hunt Cup in April and Andi'amu dominating the Virginia Gold Cup in May. For good measure, the 12-year-old added the Willowdale timber stakes. Shawan belonged to Storm Team, who repelled multiple challenges and won by 5¾ lengths for jockey Graham Watters. The 8-year-old competed on the flat for trainer Alan Goldberg, won a novice stakes over hurdles and five timber wins to his record for owners Sheila Williams and Northwoods Stable and trainer Jack Fisher.

Andi'amu shook off the Shawan defeat by shipping north to Geneseo, N.Y. and the Genesee Valley Hunt Cup Oct. 8. Facing just three foes, the Leslie Young trainee won by 12¾ lengths for jockey Freddie Procter. Owned by Ballybristol Farm, Andi'amu extended a timber tour de force he started in 2018. After a solid hurdle career, he won his first five over the lumber to claim the NSA timber championship in 2019 and has finished first or second in every timber race he's finished (through Oct. 21). The only blemish was

an off course in the 2020 Virginia Gold Cup, and the streak includes nine wins.

In other action at Shawan, Del Rio Racing's Step to the Bar won a $35,000 allowance hurdle for trainer Kate Dalton and her husband/jockey Bernie Dalton. The 6-year-old Louisiana-bred hadn't won since taking a maiden race over the course a year earlier. Maryland-breds Fleeting Atte and Keys Discount finished 1-2 in a 3-year-old maiden hurdle to open the card. The winner, a son of Afleet Alex and the Meadowlake mare Attemptress, was bred by South Branch Equine and races for trainer/jockey Sean McDermott and owner Ciarrai Bloodstock.

At the Virginia Fall meeting Oct. 8, Cracker Factory (GB) tossed his halter into the timber conversation with a win in the $30,000 National Sporting Library and Museum timber stakes for The Hundred Acre Field and trainer Mark Beecher. A maiden winner at Shawan, the 7-year-old zigged and zagged through the stretch to get up in the final strides and win by a half-length over Boutonniere who had a nose on Storm Team who was a half-length to the good of Mystic Strike.

A four-time winner over hurdles in England as a 3-year-old in 2018, Cracker Factory lost four starts for trainer Jack Fisher before getting claimed in October 2020 and losing three hurdle starts for his new connections. Switched to cross-country races, and then timber, the son of Poet's Voice (GB) has been on the rise ever since with a fifth against maidens in April and then the two wins.

Bargary won three at Virginia Fall–Cracker Factory, Stooshie (Ire) in a maiden timber and Duc de Meran (Fr) in the cross-country. The triple gave him a dozen wins from his last 26 rides.

Also at Virginia Fall, owner/jockey Alex Leventhal booted home R S One (Ire) in the maiden hurdle for Beecher. The first-time starter–flat or jump–scored by a half-length over Potus. Owner Sonny Via's Welshman made off with a $25,000 handicap hurdle, scoring by 8 lengths for Fisher and Watters, while Top Brass (GB) and Maryland-bred Robert's Luxury won starter maiden hurdle races for trainers Young and McDermott, respectively.

DOUGLAS LEES

Storm Team flies a fence on the way to victory at Shawan Downs, the first meet of the autumn season.

Cracker Factory clears a fence in his win at Virginia Fall in October.

Jumping Around

Hall of Fame trainer Janet Elliot won her first jump race since 2015 when Greg Hawkins' Saigon captured a filly/mare maiden hurdle at Foxfield Oct. 2. The NSA leading trainer of 1991 and the trainer of champions Correggio (Ire) and Flat Top, Elliot won flat races at Laurel Park (with Saigon) in August and Delaware Park (Webb) in September to start a mini-streak with her small stable. Saigon's win gave her three from just 16 starters this year . . . Through Oct. 21, the NSA standings included a handful of tight races with Bruton Street-US leading the owners with $406,350 over Irv Naylor's $399,850. Naylor and Leipers Fork Racing led the way with nine wins apiece. Young's 28 wins were four better than Keri Brion, with Fisher third with 16 and Beecher fourth with eight. Parker Hendriks continued to lead the jockeys with 20 wins, eight more than a three-way tie for second between Bargary, Procter and Tom Garner. Snap Decision's $220,500 led the horses, followed by Grand National hero Hewick ($150,000) and Noah and the Ark ($135,000).

Showtime

Maryland-bred filly tops sale at $320,000 for Determined Stud

By Joe Clancy. Photos courtesy of Fasig-Tipton

Videographer Matt Goins showed up to take pre-sales footage of Scott Mallory's consignment for October's Fasig-Tipton Mid-lantic yearling sale at Timonium, Md., and made everybody look at an Uncle Mo filly aimed for the first session.

Even Mallory.

"I didn't realize how nice she was until we were doing videos last week and I was like, 'Wow,'" the Kentucky-based Mallory said. "We walk them at the farm, but I'm usually attached to a horse. I'm not standing there watching them go around. I saw her . . . she was just strutting. Matt was like, 'I could watch her walk all day long.'"

He wasn't alone, as Hip 158 brought $320,000 to top the first day and stand up through another 200 yearlings as the overall sales-topper on a bid by Legion Bloodstock.

Bred in Maryland by Matt Dorman's Determined Stud, the dark bay filly is out of the stakes-winning Grade 2-placed Andina (Ire). A four-time winner for trainer Ben Cecil in California, the Singspiel (Ire) mare has produced five winners from as many foals to race led by Grade 3 winner Andina Del Sur. Dorman purchased the mare, carrying the Uncle Mo filly, for $200,000 at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky's November sale in 2020. Foaled at Sycamore Hall Farm in Chesapeake City, the Uncle Mo filly caught the eyes of plenty of buyers at Timonium.

"She never bobbled once, was professional the whole time," said Mallory. "We put a lot of time into it. They're handled and something is done with them almost every day, which is important even if it's not easy. With horses like this, you can't just show up and hope they sell well. You've got to work at it. It feels good when it turns out like this."

Determined, Mallory and Legion also connected on the sale's second-most expensive yearling in a Maryland-bred More Than Ready filly at $200,000.

The sales-topper, a Maryland-bred Uncle Mo filly, checks out the crowd at Fasig-Tipton.

"I thought they were the two best horses in the sale, and talking to everybody else it seemed that way," said Travis Durr, part of the Legion team with Kristian Villante, Evan Ciannello and Kyle Zorn. "They just stood out in this market. Scott always does a good job. They're by the right sires. Our clients race and breed, so they're interested. They can keep them to breed too. They'll go home to get broken and then figure it out from there. It's been a tough sale. They stand out, the good ones, so you have to work to get horses like that."

Durr bought South Carolina's Webb Carroll Training Center in 2016, and joined forces with the others to create Legion last year. In addition to the two near the top of the market, the group bought two others at Timonium.

Overall, statistics at the sale Oct. 3 and 4 were down somewhat from 2021, which set records for gross and average, but ahead of 2020 as the gross topped $10.2 million and the average reached $26,597. The remnants of Hurricane Ian might have kept some buyers away–while definitely impacting horses and humans on the grounds with cold temperatures and wet weather–but did little to dissuade participation.

"The pavilion was very busy both days, we had a great crowd both days," said sales director Paget Bennett. "People kept coming and came to buy horses. Last year was so good and I think this year was still very solid for the book that we had. We had people here to the end. We hit the [14-horse] supplement and . . . there were some sparks that flew in that too."

Regional-breds occupied the top four price points, and eight of the top 10. In addition to the top-two Maryland-bred fillies, a Pennsylvania-bred Munnings colt consigned by Becky Davis sold for $200,000. Davis also sold a Maryland-bred Arrogate colt for $180,000. The first Kentucky-bred, a Violence colt, completed the top five at $170,000.

Marshall Silverman topped all consignors by gross at $1,206,200 for 42 yearlings sold, followed by Davis at $1,112,500 (21 sold) and Northview Stallion Station at $922,700 (44). Cary Frommer led all buyers at $702,000 spent on six yearlings. Legion was second at $580,000 on four yearlings for various clients. Grassroots Training and Sales spent $360,500 on 10 yearlings, though–as usual–the strength of Timonium's yearling market rested with its depth of buyers at all levels.

"The people who love buying from this sale were here," said Bennett. "They went home with a lot of nice purchases. I know they're very excited and always like to shop this market. The state-bred programs were rewarded by the buyers. Hopefully it translates when they go to the track or come back in a 2-year-old sale."

Top of the Market

A Marylander, Dorman found success at Timonium as part of an overall Thoroughbred business plan that includes buying, breeding, racing and selling under his Determined Stud banner. He bought a barn at Maryland's Fair Hill Training Center, overseen by trainer Phil Schoenthal, and originally aimed to build a new Thoroughbred farm near Gaithersburg before construction costs and general practicality shelved that idea. Dorman bought Sierra Farm in Lexington, Ky., and bases a growing broodmare band there–with a handful foaling in Maryland each year.

"Matt's put a lot of money and time into the business getting this band of mares together," said Mallory. "He's working at it. He deserves some sales like this. We need people like him in the business,

TOP-PRICED YEARLINGS

Fillies

$320,000. Dk.b./br.f., Uncle Mo—Andina (Ire), by Singspiel (Ire) (Md.); Determined Stud, Scott Mallory, agt.; Legion Bloodstock, agt.

$200,000. Dk.b./br.f., More Than Ready—Fluffhead, by Animal Kingdom (Md.); Determined Stud, Scott Mallory, agt.; Legion Bloodstock, agt.

$155,000. B.f., Mendelssohn—Amie's Legend, by Not For Love (Md.); Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agt.; Country Life Farm, agt.

$150,000. Ch.f., Munnings—She's Overwelming, by Albert the Great (Pa.); Gracie Bloodstock, agt.; De Meric Sales.

$125,000. B.f., Speightstown—Electricita, by Ghostzapper (Pa.); Becky Davis, agt.; Mens Grille Racing.

$125,000. Ch.f., Midshipman—Grouse Grind, by First Samurai (W.Va.); Deb Ferguson, agt.; Breeze Easy.

$125,000. B.f., Honor Code—Tanca, by Polish Numbers (Md.); Chanceland Farm; Mens Grille Racing.

$110,000. Ch.f., Vino Rosso—What Am I Gonna Do, by Partner's Hero (Pa.); Paramount Sales, agt.; The Elkstone Group.

$105,000. Ch.f., Kantharos—Magically, by Mr. Greeley (Ky.); Hill 'n' Dale Sales Agency, agt.; Tom McCrocklin, agt.

$105,000. B.f., Army Mule—Mezcalita, by Pioneerof the Nile (Ky.); Hill 'n' Dale Sales Agency, agt.; Tom McCrocklin, agt.

$100,000. Ch.f., Omaha Beach—Benvenutta, by Tapit (Md.); Determined Stud, Scott Mallory, agt.; Dennis O'Neill, agt.

$100,000. B.f., Central Banker—Might Be, by Posse (N.Y.); Marshall Silverman, agt.; Michael Kipness.

$100,000. Dk.b./br.f., Bolt d'Oro—Oh Scatty Oh, by Scat Daddy (Pa.); Marshall Silverman, agt.; James Perella.

$100,000. Ch.f., Not This Time—Paradise Bird, by Summer Bird (Md.); Thornmar, Marshall Silverman, agt.; Classic for Legs Galore.

$100,000. Ch.f., Munnings—Uniquely Chic, by Union Rags (Md.); Becky Davis, agt.; SAB Stable.

$82,000. B.f., Take Charge Indy—Uchitel, by Afleet Alex (Ky.); Blake-Albina Tbred Services, agt.; McMahon & Hill Bloodstock, agt.

$80,000. B.f., Mitole—Gemini R N, by Mineshaft (Va.); Gracie Bloodstock, agt.; Julie Davies, agt.

$75,000. B.f., Mitole—Aunt Glo, by Awesome Again (N.Y.); Turning Point Bloodstock, agt.; Cary Frommer.

$75,000. B.f., Maximus Mischief—Colonel Dettwiller, by Colonel John (Ky.); Gracie Bloodstock, agt.; Scanlon Training & Sales.

Colts and Geldings

$200,000. Ch.c., Munnings—Frost Fire, by Medaglia d'Oro (Pa.); Becky Davis, agt.; Summer Street.

$180,000. Gr./ro.c., Arrogate—How My Heart Works, by Not For Love (Md.); Becky Davis, agt.; Cash Is King & LC Racing.

$170,000. Dk.b./br.c., Violence—Forbidden Kiss, by Touch Gold (Ky.); Blake-Albina Tbred Services, agt. II; Cary Frommer.

$150,000. Dk.b./br.c., Nyquist—Bawlmer Hon, by Silver Train (Md.); Becky Davis, agt.; Cary Frommer.

$145,000. Dk.b./br.c., Mendelssohn—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute (Md.); Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agt.; Cary Frommer.

$140,000. Dk.b./br.c., Girvin—Tiz Possible, by Tiznow (N.Y.); Vinery Sales, agt. XXVIII; Tom McCrocklin for Champion Equine.

$110,000. B.c., Weigelia—Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico (Pa.); Gracie Bloodstock, agt.; LC Racing.

$100,000. Dk.b./br.c., Twirling Candy—Vamp, by Artie Schiller (Ky.); KP Sales, agt. III; Grassroots Training & Sales.

$92,000. B.c., Maclean's Music—Tapit Home, by Tapit (Pa.); Paramount Sales, agt. VII; Mentz/Larson/Robertson.

$90,000. Ch.c., Bourbon Courage—Barouchka, by Not For Love (Md.); Ann Jackson, Marshall Silverman, agt.; Novogratz Racing Stables.

$90,000. Dk.b./br.c., Flatter—Cap, by Arch (N.Y.); Blake-Albina Tbred Services, agt. II; Cary Frommer.

$82,000. Dk.b./br.c., Yoshida (Jpn)—Newstouse, by Unbridled's Song (Pa.); Paramount Sales, agt. III; The Elkstone Group.

$80,000. B.c., Bernardini—Full Ransom, by Full Mandate (Ky.); Gracie Bloodstock, agt.; Keep The Ball Rollin.

$77,000. B.g., Bourbon Courage—Nosubstituteforluv, by Not For Love (N.J.); Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agt.; Robert Lambe.

$75,000. B.c., Maclean's Music—Nightlife Baby, by Flatter (Ky.); C&S Thoroughbreds, agt.; Classic for Campanella.

$75,000. Dk.b./br.c., Union Rags—Victory Rally, by Jump Start (Md.); Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agt.; Novogratz Racing Stables.

$72,000. B.c., Maximus Mischief—Daddy's Diva, by Scat Daddy (Ky.); C&S Tbreds, agt.; Cary Frommer.

$71,000. Dk.b./br.c., Flatter—Marcy Darcy, by Smart Strike (N.Y.); Paramount Sales, agt. XIV; Granpollo Stable.

$70,000. B.c., Uncle Mo—Silsita, by Macho Uno (Ont.); Marshall Silverman, agt.; Kaz Hill Farm, Greg Martin, agt.

A Pennsylvania-bred Munnings colt stands tall in the ring while selling for $200,000.

people that are excited about it and enjoy it. And he understands all sides of it—we sold two at the top at this sale, and sold one for $1,000 too."

Mallory gave Sycamore Hall an assist on the Timonium success.

"They got them started, it's a group effort. It takes a lot of people. Hopefully we can continue to do them proud. We've got some good weanlings on the ground and nice babies coming next year too."

Like the sales-topper, the More Than Ready filly turned heads at Timonium and carried a strong female family into the ring too. Her dam Fluffhead, by Animal Kingdom, was unplaced in two starts but is a half-sister to Breeders' Cup winner (and Grade 1 producer) Shared Account and other stakes horses Colonial Flag, Sparkle Blue and Mark of Success. Dorman paid $165,000 for Fluffhead, carrying the More Than Ready filly, at Keeneland January in 2021.

"We've had a good sales season, I'm really proud of the horses and very appreciative of Matt for giving me the opportunity to do this," said Mallory. "It's been a good sale. Several people asked us why we brought them here. They're Maryland-breds, this is Maryland. This is the sale they're supposed to go to. If something happens, they always have a place to come back to even if racing in Maryland isn't the first step for them."

Like Mallory, Davis put two horses in the top four but added another in the top eight and saw five horses sell for six figures. Her group went to a variety of buyers—2-year-old pinhooker Frommer, regional owners Mens Grille Racing, SAB Stable, Mopo Racing and Robert Bone, regional trainers Lacey Gaudet, Tim Keefe, John Salzman Jr. and more national names Cash Is King and LC Racing and Bob LaPenta through his Summer Street buying entity.

LEADING SIRES

Gross Sales

Munnings (5)	$468,000
Uncle Mo (2)	390,000
Great Notion (13)	353,000
Mendelssohn (2)	300,000
Bourbon Courage (12)	285,000
Golden Lad (20)	238,200
Mitole (4)	230,000
Violence (2)	218,000
Maximus Mischief (4)	212,000
Leofric (11)	205,700

Average Sales (3 or more sold)

Munnings (5)	$93,600
Midshipman (3)	67,667
Flatter (3)	60,000
Mitole (4)	57,500
Honor Code (3)	54,333
Twirling Candy (3)	54,000
Maximus Mischief (4)	53,000
Take Charge Indy (3)	46,667
Vino Rosso (4)	40,500
Practical Joke (3)	37,333

LEADING CONSIGNORS

Gross Sales

Marshall Silverman, agt. (42)	$1,206,200
Becky Davis, agt. (21)	1,112,500
Northview Stallion Station, agt. (44)	922,700
Vinery Sales, agt. (38)	795,300
Scott Mallory, agt. (11)	789,000
Gracie Bloodstock, agt. (16)	677,000
Paramount Sales, agt. (22)	642,000
Bill Reightler, agt. (33)	464,500
Chanceland Farm, agt. (14)	385,000
Blake-Albina Tbred Services, agt. (5)	384,000

Average Sales (3 or more sold)

Blake-Albina Tbred Services, agt. (5)	$76,800
Scott Mallory, agt. (11)	71,727
Becky Davis, agt. (21)	52,976
Deb Ferguson, agt. (5)	52,400
Hill 'n' Dale Sales Agency, agt. (5)	49,600
Gracie Bloodstock, agt. (16)	42,313
C and S Thoroughbreds, agt. (5)	41,800
Mikelle Farm (4)	36,000
Paramount Sales, agt. (22)	29,182
Marshall Silverman, agt. (42)	28,719

LEADING BUYERS

Cary Frommer (6)	$702,000
Legion Bloodstock, agt. (2)	520,000
Grassroots Training and Sales (10)	360,500
Mens Grille Racing (4)	315,000
Tom McCrocklin, agt. (5)	308,000
The Elkstone Group (5)	277,000
Cash Is King and LC Racing (2)	205,000
Summer Street (1)	200,000
Keep the Ball Rollin (4)	175,000
Steven Newby (4)	169,000

LaPenta bought the Munnings colt, a chestnut out of the Medaglia d'Oro mare Frost Fire. Bred in Pennsylvania by Jon Marshall, Hip 294 is a half-brother to stakes winner Streetwithnoname and stakes-placed Gunfyre Gal; his third dam

is Grade 1 winner La Gueriere, dam of Grade 1 winner Icon Project from the family of French champion Allez France and others. Later in the second session, Chuck Zacney of Cash Is King went to $180,000 to buy Hip 346 in partnership with LC Racing. The gray Arrogate colt out of How My Heart Works ought to be familiar, as Zacney won the 2020 Maryland Million Classic with half-brother Monday Morning Qb.

"He is an athlete," Davis said of the Arrogate colt. "He wasn't showing himself great–I had horses walking all tucked up and not looking their best because they were walking in the pouring rain–and interest kind of cooled the last day. I sent Chuck a text late Tuesday morning and said I'd love to see him end up with him. I was hoping for 200 [thousand] but that was a good sale."

Bred by Bowman and Higgins Stable, the colt got a big pedigree boost this year when Cyberknife (out of How My Heart Works' half-sister Awesome Flower) won the Haskell-G1 in July.

Other highlights for Davis included a $150,000 Nyquist colt out of stakes winner Bawlmer Hon purchased by Frommer, a $125,000 Speightstown filly with ties to the deep Canadian family of Dance Smartly purchased by Mens Grille Racing, and a $100,000 Munnings filly with a similar pedigree to the Arrogate colt now owned by SAB Stable.

Sold by one Maryland farm (Northview Stallion Station) to another (Country Life Farm) for $155,000 during the first session, a Mendelssohn filly listens to the auctioneer at Timonium.

"I'm happy," Davis said. "Most of my horses went to end users. I had a tremendous group of horses and they did really well. The whole point is to sell a good racehorse or a good pinhook and part of that plan is for people to make money off you. Then they come back and buy again."

Silverman nosed out Davis for the leading consignor role by gross, like Davis mainly with regional-breds. A Not This Time filly, bred in Maryland by Thornmar Farm, was one of three sold for $100,000, joined by a Pennsylvania-bred Bolt d'Oro filly and a New York-bred Central Banker filly. Maryland breeder Ann Jackson sold a Bourbon Courage colt, a half-brother to stakes horses Artful Splatter, Taco Supream and Renaissance Rosie, for $90,000. A Canadian-bred Uncle Mo colt who didn't meet his reserve at Keeneland September went for $70,000.

"The better horses sold really well–if they vetted and they looked the part and they had some pedigree, they got sold," said Silverman. "That's the way it's always been. There isn't always a big market for

Midlantic fall yearling sales 10-year comparison

	Gross	Average	Sold	Buy-back %	Sales topper
2013	$7,469,900	$25,847	289	13.7 percent	$250,000. Jambles, b.c., Quality Road—Chalonnaise, by French Deputy; consigned by CandyLand, agent IV; purchased by Bortolazzo Stables.
2014	$6,023,900	$21,905	275	27.6 percent	$260,000. Charmed Victory, b.c., Flatter—American Victory, by Victory Gallop; consigned by Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agent; purchased by Hillwood Stable.
2015	$5,228,800	$19,083	274	25.3 percent	$200,000. Shimmering Aspen, gr./ro.f., Malibu Moon— Aspenglow, by Lion Hearted; consigned by CandyLand, agent III; purchased by Ellen Charles.
2016	$6,436,600	$24,017	268	17.0 percent	$450,000. First Mondays, ch.c., Curlin—Formalities Aside, by Awesome Again; consigned by Becky Davis, agent; purchased by Charles Zacney.
2017	$7,855,100	$25,177	312	29.1 percent	$300,000. World Affairs, dk.b./br.c., Cairo Prince— Current Event, by Curlin; consigned by Becky Davis, agent; purchased by Eisaman Equine.
2018	$7,318,700	$21,653	332	21.8 percent	$210,000. Kiss the Girl, b.f., Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun; consigned by CandyLand, agent II; purchased by Three Diamonds Farm.
2019	$7,275,900	$24,253	300	21.2 percent	$190,000. My Oath, b.c., Honor Code—Mrs. Vanderbilt, by Citidancer; consigned by Bill Reightler, agent; purchased by Seagull Capital, Tim Hills, agent.
2020	$9,161,200	$24,172	379	21.7 percent	$270,000. Torpedo Run, ch.c., Gun Runner—Stormy Tak, by Stormy Atlantic; consigned by Becky Davis, agent; purchased by Lambe Bloodstock.
2021	$11,269,400	$29,578	381	16.4 percent	$235,000. Tomodachi, ch.c., Mendelssohn—Grace Is Gone, by Malibu Moon; consigned by Northview Stallion Station (David Wade); purchased by Scanlon Training and Sales.
2022	$10,266,400	$26,597	386	17.0 percent	$320,000. dk.b./br.f., Uncle Mo—Andina (Ire), by Singspiel (Ire); consigned by Determined Stud, Scott Mallory, agent; purchased by Legion Bloodstock, agent.

In 2004, a colt by Silver Deputy sold at this sale for $500,000 to set a record for the most expensive horse sold at public auction in Maryland and remains the most expensive yearling sold. The record price for a horse of any age sold at public auction in Maryland is $3.55 million for Hejazi, a dark bay colt by Bernardini consigned by Chester and Mary Broman, Sequel Bloodstock, agent, who sold at the 2022 May 2-year-olds in Training Sale.

cheaper horses, but that doesn't mean they aren't going to turn out to be good racehorses."

Silverman sold 28 yearlings for $30,000 or less, helped along by state incentive programs for their breeders.

"You can't make people buy them, and the prices can't keep going up," Silverman said. "The programs are great in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Delaware. Those are good incentives for people."

Stocking the Shelves

As usual, regional owners and trainers worked the sale–weather be damned–while looking to restock shedrows for 2023 and beyond. Nobody was busier than Maryland trainer Dale Capuano, who bought a dozen in his name or for clients.

The pricetags ran from $5,000 to $60,000 and reflected a varied approach to scouting yearlings.

"It's only 500 yearlings so it's easier than some of the sales," said Capuano. "Mostly I go through the catalog first and find pedigrees and things I like. Then I go see the horses and a lot of times that doesn't work out–maybe the individual doesn't fit the pedigree you were thinking about, something like that. You end up finding individuals you like while you're out there looking too. You come across them."

The veterinary process eliminates some from the list, then Capuano gets to work–bidding, buying, deciding. He likes the mix of horses at Timonium, and his spot in the market compared to other sales. He used to go to Keeneland September, but mainly stays local now.

"There are so many horses that you could zero in on a couple and then you can't afford them," he said. "When I go there, for the money I'm spending, it's tough. I figure we stay here. It's easier now than it was years ago thanks to some of the clients I have. We're able to pay more now."

Capuano's clients are staunch supporters of the Maryland program, so Maryland-breds and Maryland-sired yearlings get the most attention. This year, Capuano client Steve Newby bought Maryland-breds by Uncle Lino, Take Charge Indy and Great Notion plus a Kentucky-bred by Maryland sire Bandbox. Another Capuano owner, Mopo Racing, went to $60,000 to land a Great Notion filly out of Moon Virginia (a former Capuano trainee and a half-sister to multiple stakes winner Luna Belle).

"She's a pretty good-looking filly," Capuano said. "I thought we paid a little bit more than we wanted to, or hoped to, or planned to anyway. That happens sometimes, but it usually averages out. You pay less than you planned to for some too.

"Moon Virginia was a hard-knocking filly and that cross worked in the family because Luna Belle is by Great Notion. She was a Maryland-bred for $60,000. I didn't think that was reaching too far."

Capuano signed for seven others in his name, all Maryland-breds. The full dozen head to Lynn Ashby to get Delaware-certified before taking steps toward the trainer's barn at Laurel Park.

"Like I always tell my clients, we'll know in a year whether we had a good sale or a bad sale," Capuano said. "When we buy them we think we're doing OK, but that's every year and you don't know until they run."

Sales Notes

Consignor Deb Ferguson sold all five yearlings under her banner, topped by a $125,000 Midshipman filly purchased by Breeze Easy. Bred in West Virginia by Carlisle Horse Company, the filly was purchased for $36,000 as a weanling at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's December sale last year. Ferguson's five averaged $52,400 . . . Capuano and clients weren't the only racing operations staying busy at Timonium. Mens Grille, which races with trainer Hamilton Smith, bought four for $315,000. A $125,000 Honor Code filly purchased from Chanceland Farm joined the $125,000 Speightstown filly purchased from Davis at the top. The Honor Code is a half-sister to graded stakes winner Cordmaker and stakes winners Las Setas and Corvus. Their dam Tanca has produced seven total winners from eight to race. . . Smith client Kathleen Willier spent $60,000 on a Great Notion colt bred in Maryland by Fred Lewis and consigned by Bill Reightler . . . Smith signed for three, as did trainers Jerry Robb and Phil Schoenthal . . . Robert Bone, who races at several regional tracks, purchased three yearlings . . . Mexican buyer Cuadra Tehuantepec purchased nine yearlings . . . Country Life Farm spent $155,000 to buy a Mendelssohn filly out of stakes winner Amie's Legend from Northview Stallion Station. She was bred in Maryland by Two Legends Farm and Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds . . . The Elkstone Group, Delawarean Stuart Grant's racing stable, bought five–topped by a $110,000 Vino Rosso filly bred in Pennsylvania by Steven and Jane Long . . . Agent Tom McCrocklin was busy, purchasing six including three at six figures. A New York-bred Girvin colt purchased for Champion Equine topped the list at $140,000. ◆

STATISTICS BY SEX

	Colts	*Fillies*	*Geldings*
Sold	187	194	5
Gross	$4,975,600	$5,175,800	$115,000
Average	$26,607	$26,679	$23,000
Median	$15,000	$15,000	$10,500

TWO-YEAR BID DISTRIBUTION FIGURES

		2022		2021	
	final *bid*	*no. sold*	*total amount*	*no. sold*	*total amount*
≥	$100,000	23	$3,215,000	16	$2,460,000
≥	75,000	12	973,000	10	864,000
≥	50,000	24	1,364,000	35	2,033,000
≥	25,000	65	2,125,000	102	3,444,000
≥	10,000	120	1,896,000	126	1,969,500
≥	5,000	80	524,000	56	387,900
others		62	169,400	36	111,000

TWO-YEAR FIGURES

	2022	2021
Offered	465	456
Sold	386	381
% Not Sold	17.0%	16.4%
Gross	$10,266,400	$11,269,400
Average	$26,597	$29,578
Median	$15,000	$20,000

Perfection

Parx lives up to hype, shines on Pennsylvania Derby Day

BY PAUL HALLORAN. PHOTOS BY EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

There are myriad ways to describe a day at the racetrack; "perfect" is not often on the list.

Those at Parx Racing on Pennsylvania Derby Day could make a pretty good case.

Start with the weather, which always plays a role in the equation: 70 degrees, sunshine, no humidity.

Then take a look at the caliber of racing: 10 stakes, five graded, two Grade 1s – the best card in the country on Saturday, Sept. 24.

How about the top horses who shipped to Bensalem: Kentucky Oaks-G1 winner Secret Oath in the Cotillion-G1, and a loaded Pennsylvania Derby-G1 that featured eight horses who ran in at least one leg of the Triple Crown – Kentucky Derby-G1 third-place finisher Zandon, Haskell-G1 winner and Travers-G1 runner-up Cyberknife, and Santa Anita Derby-G1 winner and Haskell runner-up Taiba carrying the Bob Baffert flag.

All-star jockeys John Velazquez, Luis Saez, Mike Smith, Irad Ortiz Jr., Joel Rosario, Flavien Prat and Florent Geroux brought their tack to Parx, much to the delight of the local fans who showed up in droves and helped create a genuine festival atmosphere.

In addition to Baffert, trainers Steve Asmussen, Chad Brown, Brad Cox, D. Wayne Lukas, Doug O'Neill, Todd Pletcher and Wesley Ward showed up with entries. Shed no tears for the home team, however, as nine of the 13 races went to local connections.

Let's not forget the economic impact of Pennsylvania's best day of racing: a record handle of $18,844,528 – up 37 percent from last year and an incredible 81 percent from 2014.

"It means everything. It's the biggest day in the commonwealth," said Jeff Matty, still in his first year as executive director of the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association. "The racing office did a tremendous job. A day like this springboards us tremendously. It shows fans and legislators in the state that racing is alive and well."

Tom Rooney had two reasons to be at Parx, in his role as president and CEO of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association and as a proud son. The Patrick J. Rooney Continental/Keystone Classic was named for one of the first managers of the track, which opened as Keystone Racetrack in 1974.

"The weather's perfect and Philly is out in full force," Tom Rooney said. "It's great for racing and great for the future of our sport. This is where we grew up and where I got my interest in horse racing at a very early age."

Baffert wins fourth Derby, Asmussen fifth Cotillion

The sun was less than an hour from setting by the time the 11 horses in the $1 million Pennsylvania Derby broke from the gate at 6:12 p.m. When Taiba crossed the finish line 1:48.67 later, Baffert had won the race for the fourth time and third in the last five runnings.

"He proved that he is a good horse," the Hall of Fame trainer said. "He ran his race. He is a horse that has been slowly improving."

A $1.7 million Zedan Racing purchase at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Florida Select 2-year-old sale, Taiba did not make the races until March of this year, but, as is often the case with Baffert trainees, it was worth the wait.

By Gun Runner out of the Flatter mare Needmore Flattery, Taiba won his debut in a 7½-length romp, prompting Baffert to run him in the Santa Anita Derby-G1 next. Another impressive win led to a start in the Kentucky Derby-G1, in which he ran 12th, but after being freshened he came back to just miss in the Haskell, losing by a head to Cyberknife.

Baffert worked him six times – four bullets – and Taiba started as the 7-5 favorite in the Pennsylvania Derby. Sitting off the pace set by Florida Derby-G1 winner White Abarrio, Simplification and We the People – who finished fifth, fourth and eighth, respectively – Mike Smith kept Taiba inside on the first turn, swung wide at the quarter pole, took the lead early in the stretch and drew away to a 3-length win. Add his name to the short list of potential 3-year-old champions, pending the results of the Breeders' Cup Classic-G1.

"This was a spot that puts him right there," Baffert said. "He is just a tough horse. Powerful."

The ultra-consistent Zandon ran a good second, closing from 9 lengths back on a track that favored horses on or near the pace throughout the day. Cyberknife, eighth early, got up at the wire for third.

In the co-feature, the $1 million Cotillion for 3-year-old fillies, Geroux never gave the competition a chance, sending Society, another Gun Runner progeny, to the front and leading every step of the 1 1/16 miles. Out of the Tapit mare Etiquette, Society won by 5¾ lengths in 1:42.94 over Morning Matcha. Secret Oath ran third and the favorite, Virginia-bred Green Up, finished fourth.

"After three jumps I was already on the lead and was able to clear everyone else without much effort," Geroux said. "From there I tried to keep her as relaxed as I could. Everything went very nicely. She's extremely quick."

Bred and owned by Peter Blum, Society improved to 5-for-6 lifetime in giving Asmussen his second straight Cotillion (he won with Clairiere last year) and fifth overall, the others being champions Midnight Bisou, Untapable and My Miss Aurelia.

Jock stars make fans' day

If you've been to Saratoga, odds are you have seen riders signing autographs and posing for photos on the walk back to the jockeys' room. That type of fan engagement was taken to a new level at Parx on Derby Day.

Not only were the likes of Ortiz and Saez posing for unlimited selfies, Irad was actually grabbing phones and taking the photos himself. After winning the Cotillion, Geroux stopped several times to sign autographs while being interviewed on his way back to change into Cyberknife's silks for the Derby.

Clearly, the riders were keenly aware of how important this day and their presence

Taiba triumphs in the Pennsylvania Derby, the fourth win in the race for trainer Bob Baffert and third for jockey Mike Smith.

Society pulls clear to win the Cotillion, trainer Steve Asmussen's fifth score in the stakes for 3-year-old fillies.

Love in the Air returns after winning the Plum Pretty Stakes for Parx-based trainer John Servis.

were to the local fans and they went out of their way to be accommodating.

"I'm grateful to be here," said Saez, who won the opener aboard Tuskegee Airmen, one of three wins on the day for the Cash Is King and LC Racing ownership group and two for trainer John Servis. "I love to travel and ride everywhere. This is my job, my dream. People really love the horses and the sport. I'm happy to be here."

Ortiz may not have had a productive day on the track, winning a maiden race but finishing off the board in eight races, including six stakes, but you wouldn't have known it by the smile he wore when interacting with the fans.

"I've been coming here for years," he said. "This is special day when they all show up. I'm happy when I see a lot of fans. It's good for the track and good for everybody. I love to win here because they give me so much love."

The win came in the second race, a $100,000 maiden special weight aboard Pennsylvania-bred Justify filly Rosie's Alibi, leading to a capacity crowd in the winner's circle, as more than 100 MyRacehorse partners crammed in, with a few dozen getting shut out. MyRacehorse New York racing manager Harry Rice had the unenviable task of directing traffic for the partners and he put forth a Grade 1 effort.

"I don't remember the last time I saw that many people [in winner's circle]," Ortiz said. "It's fun; I enjoy it. The fans here make me feel like home. I love them."

Home cookin' for trainers

Servis – he of Smarty Jones fame – found himself in the winner's circle right away, when Tuskegee Airmen romped in the opener. No one had to tell him of the magnitude of this day of racing in Pennsylvania.

"Days like this I try to participate as much as I can," said Servis, who ran 12 horses in eight races, including three in the Plum Pretty Stakes, which he won with Love in the Air. "It's exciting to see this kind of crowd. A lot of people on the backside that aren't even running horses are here. It's great."

Servis, who owns Love in the Air with Dr. Louis Bucky and Will Schwartz as Main Line Racing, had a second in the Imply Stakes to go along with the two wins. The horses he saddled earned a combined $284,500.

"Tremendous day," he said, referring to the overall atmosphere, though he could have been talking about his own results.

You know Butch Reid is going to make his presence felt on a day like this and the lifetime Philadelphian did not disappoint. Reid took two races, including the Greenwood Cup Stakes with wire-to-wire winner Ridin With Biden, finished second in the Cotillion with Pennsylvania-bred 48-1 shot Morning Matcha, and had three other in-the-money finishes.

Reid's 10 starters earned a combined $434,500.

"I'm from Philly. I've lived here all my life," said Reid, who had about 60 family and friends rooting him on in the Cotillion Room at Parx. "I was here the first year it opened in 1974. This is home. To have this kind of crowd, a gorgeous day, big fields and lots of money. . . We have the attention of the nation on a day like today. It's really fantastic."

Sun sets on dream day

When Buy Land and See hit the wire in the Alphabet Soup Handicap, giving Parx-based trainer Guadalupe Preciado his third win of the day, it brought down the curtain on a day that left everyone at Parx smiling. That would obviously include management.

"We don't get many opportunities like this," said chief operating officer Joe Wilson. "We try to package everything together and put on the best show we can. We've grown the day over the years and we hope to keep growing it. One day a year, the horse racing nation is looking at Parx. It's really cool."

Maybe even perfect. ◆

Coming True

That's Right delivers big score in Turf Monster for Shannon, Moore

BY PAUL HALLORAN. PHOTOS BY EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Could you put a price tag on your dream?

Jim Shannon couldn't, or wouldn't, and he was rewarded.

Shannon paid $62,000 for That's Right, a Goldencents colt, at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale at Timonium, Md. Shannon consults on his sale purchases with bloodstock agent Josh Stevens, whose star purchases include multiple graded stakes winners Divisidero and By My Standards, the latter also a son of Goldencents.

This one didn't look like the best purchase when the horse was still a maiden after six starts, though he had managed to finish third or better in three of them.

"He had been a little disappointing," said trainer Michael Moore. "He always ran OK, but he wouldn't finish his races. It was a little frustrating."

Moore, based at Parx and active throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, decided to make some wholesale changes, adding blinkers, moving the horse to the turf, shortening up to 5 furlongs and switching to apprentice jockey Andy Hernandez for a maiden special weight on the Black-Eyed Susan card at Pimlico on Preakness Eve.

Bingo.

That's Right, out of the Greatness mare Cat Ten, shot to the lead and won by 5 lengths in a swift 57.12 seconds. Not only was Moore pleased with the results, he was relieved the horse hadn't gotten in to the $25,000 maiden claimer the day before.

"He loved the turf and he ran huge," said Moore, who started as an assistant to Dan Lopez and went out on his own about 10 years ago. "I was willing to run him for 25, but was hoping we wouldn't lose him. It would have been hard to watch if he ran like that and someone claimed him."

Moore had another opportunity to lose That's Right after he romped in an allowance race at Monmouth June 17. Shannon's phone rang and the agent for a potential buyer made a considerable offer: $300,000. At that point the horse was 2-for-8 lifetime with $94,150 in earnings.

"It was quite a compliment," said Shannon, who turned 78 Sept. 29. "I thought about it, but I called him back and told him I would be selling my dream. I've dreamed of having a horse like him."

That's Right made Shannon look smart, winning the My Frenchman Stakes at Monmouth Park July 17 and, after a disappointing sixth in the Mahony Stakes at Saratoga Aug. 14, turning in an impressive gate-to-wire performance in the Grade 3 $300,000 Turf Monster at Parx on the Pennsylvania Derby undercard Sept. 24.

"That was very exciting and it still is," Shannon said from his home in Yardley, Pa. "It was a great day of racing with a big crowd. We were thrilled to be a part of it."

It was the first graded stakes win for Shannon, Moore and Hernandez, whom the connections stuck with despite being contacted by agents for big-name jockeys and getting no break in the weights due to its being a stakes.

"We stayed with Andy. He had done nothing wrong on the horse," said Shannon, a sentiment echoed by Moore.

"Andy is a good jockey who works hard and deserved the opportunity [to stay on]," Moore said.

It would be hard to imagine anyone riding any better than Hernandez in the Turf Monster, as he took That's Right to the lead from the rail, opened 4 lengths at the stretch call and won by a comfortable 1½ lengths over Boat's a Rockin. The winner covered 5 furlongs in :57.66 and paid $7.40 to win as the second betting choice.

"This horse is fast. You open the gate, you go to the lead," said Hernandez. "I was pretty excited. I am more excited because being a bug boy, not every trainer takes a chance in a graded stakes race with an apprentice. One more month I will lose the bug. This will help my business."

It should do the same for Moore, who has about 20 horses in his barn and knew his big horse would run better than he had at Saratoga.

"That was a tough race and [winner] Big Invasion is a very good horse, but my horse just didn't run his race that day," he said. "He hung on the wrong lead the entire stretch. I had a lot of confidence going into the Turf Monster. Five-eighths is great for him and he got to run out of his own stall. And I don't think the race came up as tough this year as in years past."

Growing up in Mount Laurel, N.J., Moore discovered racing by going to Garden State Park and playing the races while still in high school. He became interested in what it took to get equine athletes ready to run and ended up working for Lopez at his farm in Medford, N.J., while attending Rutgers University.

"I basically split my time between Rutgers, the farm and the track," said Moore, who graduated with a degree in English. He worked for the *Daily Racing Form* in New York briefly before getting a job on the starting gate crew at Parx and Monmouth. As he began to dabble in ownership, Moore was given what turned out to be the opportunity of a lifetime–and he almost didn't take it.

"A woman was selling a 3-year-old for $2,500 and I had the chance to buy him," Moore said. "I actually waited about a week before I called her back and said I would take him. I'm lucky no one else bought him in between."

Very lucky, as Pennsylvania-bred Generally George ended up earning more than $200,000 in a 16-race career.

"He's the reason I could go out on my own as a full-time trainer," said Moore, who quickly discovered there is no real secret to success in this game.

"The one thing Danny taught me is you have to work hard," Moore said. "And Steve Klesaris told me that training horses is not a job, it's a lifestyle. You go home and you still think about it. Sometimes like today it works out, many times it doesn't. If you win two out of 10 times, you're doing great."

For That's Right, the Turf Monster made it four wins in his last five starts through Oct. 10. For Shannon, it validated his decision to take the less-traveled road by turning down a big check (the win gave the horse more than $300,000 in career earnings). And it put him and his wife, Lennie, in the winner's circle on Pennsylvania's biggest day of racing.

Speaking of Lennie, she gets credit for the horse's name, Shannon said.

That's Right powers to victory in the Turf Monster, the first graded stakes win for owner Jim Shannon, trainer Michael Moore and jockey Andy Hernandez.

"We've been married for 56 years," he said. "My wife had a stroke five years ago and, since then, whenever I say something, she'll say, 'That's right.' She never really agreed with me that much the first 51 years, so we just looked at each other and said, 'That's the name of our next horse.'"

As it turns out, they could have just as well gone with Dream Maker.

Everyone loves a 'Parade'

Five Pennsylvania-breds ran their way into the winner's circle on Derby Day, including one conditioned by someone who also trained the horse for whom the race was named.

Midnight Parade, bred by Betsy Houghton and trained by her son, Bernie, was a convincing winner of the $200,000 Imply Stakes for 2-year-old state-bred fillies. Houghton trained Imply, who won seven stakes at Parx, Presque Isle and Penn National on the way to earning $772,728 in a career that spanned five years.

Houghton, based at Penn National, trained Midnight Parade's dam, Bank'n On Gold, in her first start, from which she was claimed. After she completed a career in which she won 13 races and $467,204, owner John Loyal bred her to Into Mischief three times, resulting in two quarter-million-dollar earners. She did not have a foal in 2017 and Loyal gave the broodmare back to Betsy Houghton, who took her to Jump Start that year and Hoppertunity in 2019. Midnight Parade, foaled at Houghton's Sylmar Farm on May 6, 2020, is owned by Betsy and Joe Hillman.

"When Hoppertunity was first at stud at Northview in Pennsylvania, I bought breeding rights," said Betsy, whose homebred Midnight Hauler ran second in the Alphabet Soup Handicap to close out the star-studded card. "I like him a lot. He made more than $4 million [$4.7] and he's a terrific-looking horse. I'll probably breed three or four mares to him."

Bernie Houghton was optimistic when he sent Midnight Parade out in her debut at Penn National Sept. 1.

"I was very high on this filly the first time I ran her," he said. "I would have been disappointed if she got beat. I liked her that much."

She won by 7 lengths, prompting Houghton to throw her into the deep end at Parx. The filly made him look good, with some help from jockey David Cora, who got her off the rail, which wasn't necessarily the place to be. Cora had her fourth after a quarter-mile and second at the top of the stretch behind 3-5 favorite Flor de Sombra, but she took control with a wide move down the lane and won by 2 lengths, covering 6½ furlongs in 1:19.41.

"I didn't like the one hole," Houghton said. "I watched a couple races and thought the rail was a little dead. I had given David instructions to get out if he had the opportunity. Two-year-olds get pinned in and they don't like it. When she got in the open, she just took off."

"She's a very professional horse," said Hillman, who enjoyed the win with, among others, his 98-year-old father, Bernard, and son, Jason. "It's a big deal to win on that day. The minute Bernie said we were going to try to get in that race, my heart started thumping and each day it thumped harder."

Hillman, whose wife, June, manages Castle Rock Farm in West Chester, Pa., has been around horse racing for three decades but did not delve into ownership until 2016. He has partnered with Betsy Houghton on several horses, none better than Midnight Parade.

"I'm going to have wrinkles on my face from smiling," he said.

And he's not looking for a dermatologist. ◆

Masterpiece

Signature sprint stakes returns to Presque Isle

BY JOHN PIASSEK. PHOTOS BY COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

On the Monday evening of Sept. 19, the eyes of the racing world turned toward Presque Isle Downs. The Erie, Pa., track hosted its signature race, the Presque Isle Downs Masters Stakes-G2, as part of a stakes-filled card.

For many national racing fans, the Masters was just another big race on the schedule, but for Presque Isle, the 2022 edition symbolized, at long last, the track's return to a normal racing calendar. This year's edition of the Masters was the first renewal since 2019.

Patrick Morell is closer with Presque Isle Downs than just about anyone. As the assistant to the director of racing and the track handicapper, he's watched every race at Presque Isle since joining the track in 2019. Morell acknowledged that the return of the race this year was a long time coming.

"It was tough for us," said Morell, previously general manager of Penn Ridge Farms and national sales manager at Thoroughbred Remedies Manufacturing Ireland, among other roles. "We were concerned about not having any racing at all, especially in 2020. When we raced those years, even in abbreviated meets, we were thrilled."

Part of what made it happen was the Presque Isle horsemen: "We have a lot of very resilient people up there. It's a lot of the same people here year after year. They make a really good living up there, and they're racing on a very safe track. In my position, you get to know everyone on the backstretch, and it's very family-like up here. That's what makes it special."

After running a limited stakes schedule on its Tapeta Footings synthetic surface in 2021, Presque Isle returned to a full slate of stakes in 2022. The Masters served as the headliner of the evening's proceeds, and Morell was thrilled to see a race with such high stakes return to the calendar.

"The Masters is our crown jewel, no question about it," said Morell. "People like to say, 'Oh, you're just a B track,' but I don't know how many B tracks produce Breeders' Cup winners. This race is a very big springboard for the Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint."

Perhaps the race's biggest year came in 2017, when Ami's Mesa won and Bar of Gold finished second. A few weeks later, the two finished 1-2 in the Filly and Mare Sprint-G1, with Bar of Gold getting the better of Ami's Mesa. The Masters/Breeders' Cup double has been completed four times, by Informed Decision in 2009, Musical Romance in 2011 and Groupie Doll in 2012 and 2013.

"This year's Masters was literally, and I'm not joking, the best day of racing in Presque Isle history," said Morell. "You've got to remember, I've raced a lot of horses here, I was here on opening day [in 2007], I've been up here a lot. This was the best day of racing we've ever had.

"We got national exposure through FanDuel TV, I got to be on the air with Larry Collmus, it was great. To be on that grand of a stage at Presque Isle, it was the highlight of my career in the Thoroughbred business. I've been to 30 Kentucky Derbies, and it was way better than that."

The bettors responded in kind, with $1,808,930 wagered on the nine-race Masters card. By contrast, the Masters program in 2019 handled $1,004,614.

This year's Masters went to Artie's Princess, who came from off the pace to win by 1½ lengths under Jose Ortiz. She set a track record, running 6½ furlongs in 1:14.57 for owners Ken Ramsey and the estate of Sarah Ramsey and trainer Saffie Joseph Jr. She was one of three graded stakes winners in this year's Masters, along with Change of Control and Caravel.

Morell is enthusiastic about Presque Isle racing.

"We're on kind of an island, being so far away from a lot of other tracks. But the racing here is very strong: don't ever think it's not. A lot of big sires do well here, like Animal Kingdom, Noble Mission, More Than Ready, Giant's Causeway."

One notable change in the Presque Isle racing this year was the post time. After a twilight first post for years, the start time for each day was moved up to 1:30 p.m., with the exception of Masters Day, which started at 4:30 p.m.

"Here's the thing," said Morell, "we did it for handle reasons. Rather than competing at certain times in the summer and going up against tracks like Del Mar, we tried to capture a certain section of the market we weren't capturing before. You've got to pick your spots, because there's always someone else gunning for your money. You have to maximize your exposure."

Regardless of what time of day they race, Morell loves Presque Isle, and sees the return of the Masters as symbolic of the track's promise.

"I love this place," he said. "This is home. I love this program, and it's going to continue to get better. People are going to have to stand up and notice."

Presque Isle Notes

Pablo Morales was cruising toward the riding title. Through Oct. 9, he'd won 113 races from 437 mounts, almost double the total of runner-up Antonio Gallardo. Morales was on pace for his eighth riding title, and fifth in the past six seasons. In the trainers' standings, Tim Hamm led with 36 wins. Tim Girten, with 31 victories, and Eduardo Rojas, with 28, were the closest pursuers. Hamm led the standings in 2021 and in 2013.

The first stakes of the Presque Isle season was the Tom Ridge Stakes May 23. One Timer went gate-to-wire for owners Patricia's Hope and Richard Ravin, trainer Larry Rivelli and jockey Jareth Loveberry. One Timer went on to win the Franklin-Simpson Stakes-G2 at Kentucky Downs Sept. 10.

Surly Furious set a 6-furlong track record in winning the Karl Boyes Stakes July 5. The 4-year-old son of Upstart needed just 1:07.77 to win after making a strong late rally. Two months later, he won the Presque Isle Mile Sept. 19. He's owned by Novogratz Racing Stables and trained by Glenn Wismer.

Later in July, Presque Isle hosted a trio of Pennsylvania-bred stakes. Roses

Artie's Princess storms to victory in the renewed Presque Isle Masters (above). Track handicapper and assistant to the director of racing Patrick Morell (right) keeps an eye on the action.

for Debra took the Malvern Rose Stakes July 18, Tactical Pajamas scored in the Princess of Sylmar Stakes July 25, and Nice Ace won the Hard Spun Stakes July 26. Blackstone Farm bred Roses for Debra and Nice Ace, while Vicky Schowe and Kemal Erkan bred Tactical Pajamas.

Presque Isle featured a trio of stakes races in August. Loyalty won the Lady Erie Aug. 8, Boo Boo Kitty the Satin and Lace Aug. 15, and Carpenters Call the Peach Street Aug. 22.

Also on the Sept. 19 Masters card, Christmas Diamond (GB) won the Gem City Stakes by a head in a 20-1 upset over favorite Kate's Kingdom. Samy Camacho rode the winner for Colbart Stables, Rancho Temescal, Red Baron's Barn and Dick Colvin, and trainer Teresa Connelly. Nice Ace took the Dobbins Landing Stakes later that night for Robert Bone, trainer Tim Girten and jockey Pablo Morales, for his fourth win of the meet in seven starts.

Thistledown shipper Back to Ohio cruised to victory in the Presque Isle Debutante Oct. 3 by 2½ lengths as the 11-10 choice. The 2-year-old daughter of Midshipman won for the fourth time in four starts, two at Presque Isle.

Sir Lancelot went gate-to-wire in the Oct. 4 Fitz Dixon Jr. Memorial Juvenile, crossing the line 7 lengths in front for jockey Jose Ortiz. The Goldencents gelding, a John and Susan Moore homebred, broke his maiden in his debut at Delaware Park Sept. 9 and is based at Fair Hill with trainer Mike Stidham. ◆

Beach Days

Strong entries, solid handle propel Monmouth in 2022

BY JOHN PIASSEK. PHOTOS BY EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

The 2022 racing season at Monmouth Park got off to a rather inauspicious beginning, as high winds and soaking rains resulted in the cancellation of the May 7 opener.

One day later, under much better weather conditions, the racing season started, and from there things kept getting brighter. The Jersey Shore oval completed its 60-day stand on Sept. 18 with gains in total and average handle.

Bettors wagered $217,243,199 at Monmouth this year, up 25.2 percent from last year. Average daily handle was $3,620,719, representing an increase of 14.7 percent. A total of 368,101 fans wagered $17,753,794 on-track, up more than $2.5 million from 2021.

John Heims, who has worked at Monmouth in a variety of capacities for more than 25 years, recently completed his fifth season as the racing secretary. He's bullish on the present and future of Monmouth racing.

"I thought the racing was pretty spectacular," said Heims. "We had a lot of interest from new trainers, and they participated quite well. We tried to have a focus on more high-quality allowance races, and it resulted in a very solid product. That's a huge plus when it comes to handle."

Dennis Drazin, the chairman and CEO of Darby Development, which operates Monmouth Park, said the horsemen played a big role in the success. "The horsemen supported the meet substantially. They brought horses who helped fill races, they worked with us, and they helped us put together some great races."

Heims was a fan of the new Haskell Preview Day card June 18, which he described as "blockbuster." Bettors wagered $8,277,086 on that stakes-packed program, and the plan is to put it back on the calendar for next year.

Part of the challenge for Heims was the expansion to four days a week in August, with Monmouth adding Mondays to its usual Friday-Sunday schedule.

"The horsemen requested it," Drazin said. "They had wanted to race four days a week for a while, and they wanted to race on a day where the major tracks weren't running. So we decided to experiment."

"Running four days a week is always a challenge, with the horse shortage all over the Mid-Atlantic, but we figured we would test the simulcast waters," said Heims. An average of $1,834,076 was wagered on the five non-holiday Monday cards. The Friday racing schedule was also adjusted. After two seasons of racing at 5 p.m. on Fridays, with six-race cards, post time was moved up to 2 p.m. and the card was expanded to eight races.

Haskell day July 23 highlighted the season. Attendance reached 22,138 fans, up 5.5 percent from last year, on a sunny, if hot, Saturday. The total handle of $19,896,954 was the second-highest in Haskell history and was up 21.2 percent from last year. Brad Cox-trained Cyberknife won for owner Al Gold, who grew up in New Jersey.

It was a season of changes in Oceanport. The venerable old tote board in the infield was replaced by a 3,800-foot video board. A new restaurant, the Summer Wind, opened on the clubhouse side of the track apron, affording customers a great view of the races as they ate. Coolers, disallowed for the past two years, were once again permitted.

The two biggest changes were the introduction of fixed odds and the changing of whip rules.

This season, on-track fans had the option of betting into the pari-mutuel pool or betting with fixed odds through BetMakers. Fans could lock in their odds at any point prior to post time, with only win, place, and show wagering offered.

"The fixed odds represents a new, attractive way of betting," said Drazin. "The first month was a bit slow, but as the weather improved, and more people started showing up, handle began to increase. A lot of the time, the fixed odds were the better play. Up to 75 perecent of the time, you got better odds on horses with fixed odds than you did in the pari-mutuel pool."

Drazin sees fixed-odds wagering as an integral part of the Monmouth racing experience.

"Five years from now, if all the major signals jump on fixed odds, it wouldn't surprise me if it made up 50 percent of the total handle. We have plans to mix fixed-odds betting, and get sports players involved with the core of bettors who play horse racing. If you put up racing odds in a sportsbook more often, you're going to increase your exposure."

Last year's whip rule, in which jockeys were only allowed to use the whip in emergency situations, was abolished. With national HISA rules going into effect starting July 1, Monmouth management requested that the rule be changed to HISA standards, which allow a rider six overhand strikes. The request was granted by the racing commission, and the new rules were in place for opening day.

Two-year-old racing has always been a big part of the Monmouth product, and this year was no exception. The biggest event of the season for 2-year-olds was the Nownownow Stakes Sept. 17, at a mile on the turf for a purse of $500,000.

"We put up that race for the first time in 2020 in part because of Covid," said Heims. "That year, trainers who usually go to Woodbine for the Summer Stakes couldn't cross the border. In addition, we noticed there was a gap in the schedule in which there wasn't a major two-turn 2-year-old turf race in the region. Kentucky Downs offers a lot of money for their big 2-year-old race [the $500,000 Juvenile Mile], but that's still just a one-turn race. It works well as a spot for Mid-Atlantic trainers who want to get a Breeders' Cup prep in."

The big purse proved to be enticing.

"The horses we've had for the past few years were very high-quality, and this year was the same," Heims said. "Last year's winner, Dakota Gold, was the favorite in the Breeders' Cup [Juvenile Turf, where he finished fifth], and won some stakes this year. If we keep drawing quality horses, and we stay in the same spot on the calen-

Webslinger sails to victory in the $500,000 Nownownow Stakes for 2-year-olds, a local prep for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf-G1.

dar, which is the plan, hopefully the graded stakes committee takes a look at us."

Webslinger won this year's Nownownow in a 14-1 upset, for D.J. Stable, trainer Mark Casse and jockey Dylan Davis. The Sapling, meanwhile, went to Lost Ark, a half-brother to multiple Grade 1 winner Nest. Javier Castellano came down to Monmouth to ride the horse, bypassing the Travers Day card at Saratoga to do so.

Heims is a fan of the overall 2-year-old product at Monmouth, bolstered in recent years by the revitalization of the New Jersey-bred program. There were 103 Jersey-bred foals reported in 2020, the highest number since 2015, and that figures only to trend upward.

"Having a resurgent Jersey-bred product is big for the overall 2-year-old program," he said. "We're getting full fields in the Jersey-bred races, and with higher-quality Jersey-breds, sometimes they race against open company, further improving field sizes there."

The quality of Jersey-breds has improved over the past few years. In 2020, Pickin' Time, bred by John Bowers Jr, won the Smoke Glacken Stakes against open company, and went on to win the Nashua Stakes-G3 at Aqueduct. Last year, Speaking, a Holly Crest Farm homebred, took the Smoke Glacken and has since placed in two open stakes. He also won the New Jersey Breeders Handicap Aug. 28. This year, Holly Crest homebred Great Navigator broke his maiden June 4, then finished second in the Sanford Stakes-G3 at Saratoga.

Heims has noted the increased interest in the Jersey-bred program: "People are actually spending money and starting to invest in bringing mares to New Jersey. They're realizing that this is the place you want to be, and that there's not only a future for racing here, but a bright future"

As usual, Paco Lopez won the riding title. He won 91 races from 367 mounts, more than twice as many as runner-up Angel Rodriguez. Isaac Castillo, second last year, won at a 21-percent clip and would've finished much higher in the standings had he not been sidelined for several weeks with an injury. He won five races May 29 and six July 2.

Claudio Gonzalez won his first Monmouth training title, winning 32 races to prevail by three over Kelly Breen. Although predominantly based in Maryland, Gonzalez got his start at Monmouth, working as an assistant for Juan Serey in 1995. Gonzalez's presence at Monmouth has grown in recent years; he had 171 starters this year and 135 last year. By contrast, in 2019, he saddled only seven horses at Monmouth, and two in 2018.

There was a four-way tie in the owner standings. Monster Racing Stables, Bergen Stables, David Gruskos, and the partnership of Joseph and Gayle Ioia and Chuck Spina each won eight races.

Shore Things

Monmouth hosted a trio of stakes races on Labor Day weekend. After several near-misses in stakes company at the meet, Vigilantes Way won the Violet Stakes for owner/breeder Phipps Stable and trainer Shug McGaughey Sept. 3. On Sept. 4, Feast won the Rumson Stakes by a half-length, his fourth victory of the meet. He was claimed for $25,000

Lost Ark, a half-brother to 3-year-old filly star Nest, makes off with the Sapling in his stakes debut for trainer Todd Pletcher.

Feast heads for home in the Rumson Stakes, his fourth win from five starts at the meet.

July 31 by Winning Stables and trainer Gerald Bennett. Winfromwithin took the Red Bank Stakes Sept. 5 for Lea Farms and trainer Jorge Delgado.

Feast was one of three horses to win four times at the meet–joining Free to Fly, for Ron Hendrickson and trainer Kathleen O'Connell, and Wedontbelieveher, owned by A. Bianco Holding Limited and trained by Juan Avila. Among horses who raced at least four times at the meet, New Jersey-bred He'spuregold earned the most, with $182,400, counting three wins in four starts, topped by handicap scores in the Irish War Cry and Charles Hesse III.

L'Imperator (Fr) set a course record for 1½ miles on turf Sept. 10, when he won the Presious Passion Stakes as the 2-5 favorite. He ran the distance in 2:32.67 with Hector Diaz in the saddle. The Presious Passion was his second stakes win of the year, following a victory in the Fort Marcy Stakes-G2 at Belmont Park in May. He's owned by Madaket Stables, Wonder Stables, and Bob LaPenta and trained by Chad Brown. ◆

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Book it: Library challenge creates a masterpiece

By Cindy Deubler

Books. They are *everywhere*. And now thousands are on the shelves in the Maryland Horse Library and Education Center in the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's building at 321 Main Street in Reisterstown.

Organizing and cataloging the new library continues, but the laborious process to get books ready for public view is nearly complete.

For more than 23 weeks, at a warehouse in Sparks, a retired chief librarian, a core of dedicated volunteers, and this writer spent hundreds of hours unpacking books, placing them into categories, and being stymied by decisions on what to do with material that didn't seem to have a category. True treasures were found, as well as a few surprises.

The task was made much less daunting with the assistance of Wesley Wilson, who retired in January after more than 50 years with Enoch Pratt Free Library in downtown Baltimore, where he was chief of the State Library Resource Center and head of the Maryland Room. He is renowned for his work with building and moving collections and his knowledge of Maryland history.

Wilson was more than willing to take on the project.

Books on shelves at the Maryland Horse Library and Education Center await visitors.

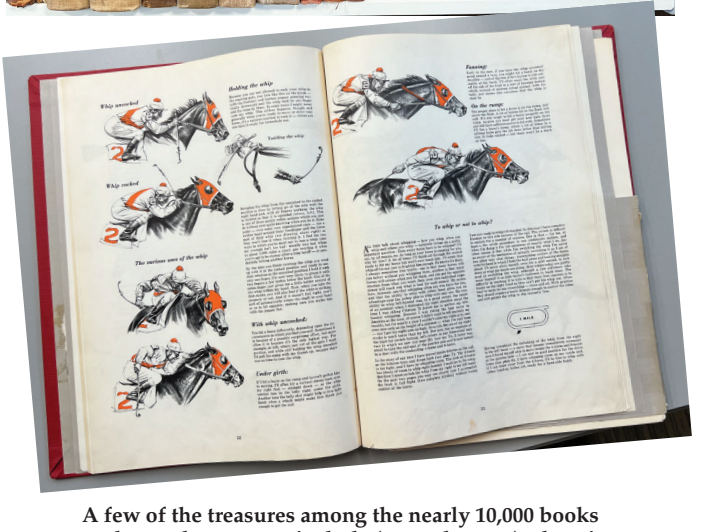
"After a long career in Maryland libraries, I was eager to share that experience," said Wilson. "Learning of Maryland Horse Foundation's goal to create a library centered on the history and culture of horses and horse racing, I was intrigued. The opportunity to work with a dedicated expert staff to create a comprehensive library given Maryland's equine culture was an exciting project I hoped to be a small part of."

The MHBA had a core library built over decades by donations, purchases and numerous publisher book review copies. While the MHBA was in search of a new location after moving from Timonium in December 2017, the majority of the library went into storage. Joining it was the Selima Room collection from the Prince George's County Library System's Bowie branch, as well as donations from book-lovers willing to see their treasures find a new home and new life.

That amounted to nearly 10,000 volumes, which during the course of five months were scattered over 4,500-square feet of space provided by Richard Blue, MHBA president at the time who secured an empty location at the Blue and Obrecht property in Sparks.

And what turned up?

Books were unboxed and sorted by category (left), while excess materials accumulated in a second area of the warehouse.



A few of the treasures among the nearly 10,000 books sorted over the summer include (top to bottom) a hunting sketchbook; *The Chace. A Poem,* printed in 1757; complete sets of *Racing in America* and *American Race Horses*; and an illustrated *The Art of Race Riding* by Eddie Arcaro. Special collection material was arranged by century (above right).

• Books considered somewhat rare, the library now has in abundance. An example is *The History of Thoroughbred Racing in America*, by William H.P. Robertson (at least a dozen copies) and complete sets of The Jockey Club Racing In America series (which covers racing history from the 1600s to the 1970s).

• A 1757 book *The Chace. A Poem,* by William Somervile, Esq., with a bookplate "Sportsman's Library, presented to The Cavalry School, Fort Riley, Kansas, USA, by the following Sportsmen: August Belmont, Esquire, William DuPont, Esquire, Harry Worchester Smith, Esquire and the late Austin Wadsworth, Esquire."

• Oversized volumes, such as *Thoroughbred Sires–From Pictures by Clarence Hailey*, a collection of 100 engravings of Thoroughbred sires published in 1908 in Newmarket, England; *The Art of Race Riding*, by Eddie Arcaro, which includes a portfolio of drawings by Robert Riger produced by the Wright Lithographing Company in New York; and *International Sport*, a gallery of representatives of equestrian sports, which in the preface notes: "This volume is not intended to be a work of reference, but rather a work of Art." Found among the subjects are Marylanders Allaire duPont, Wilbur Ross Hubbard and Stuart S. Janney Jr. And it opens with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

• Books on just about every breed, training discipline and equine topic imaginable.

"The collection is one of the most comprehensive related to horses and horse racing

in the Maryland community that I have seen," said Wilson. "The historical, local and international coverage provides a critical representation of both culture and industry."

There were a few hiccups. Near the end of May, when unpacking was nearly finished, a search for a missing year of the *Daily Racing Form* chart books (of which the library has a complete set going back to the 1930s, plus a few older years), yielded additional boxes in storage units thought to be empty. But that proved to be the tip of the iceberg.

An entire storage unit completely forgotten came to light (think Indiana Jones and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*)–it was found to have the majority of the Selima Room collection. Movers brought approximately 100 boxes, which pushed organization back to square one–unpacking and merging to that already sorted–which added weeks to the project.

All the time Wilson guided the project, made more challenging as donations came in. Some were delivered in person, some arrived at the office with no advance notice.

"I would say that rather than a challenge, it was an opportunity to expand the existing collection by merging the incredible gifts and donations that were provided by the horse enthusiast in the Maryland region [and beyond]," he said. "Creating a collection that meets the interests and expands the knowledge of all ages in the Maryland community was always in the forefront of everyone's mind."

What surprised Wilson about the entire project was "the breadth of the collection, which is truly a microcosm of all subject areas that represent horse culture from biography, art, and literature to all aspects breeding, raising, training and riding.

"The inclusion and expansion of international publications highlights a global view that perhaps many lay people do not understand."

About a half-dozen volunteers helped with heavy lifting (really heavy); moving books to specific locations (carting chart books around and placing in boxes in date order is a back-breaking and sweaty task); checking the online Library of Congress catalog–to place books in proper "library" order–with frustratingly poor internet connection; and doing inventory.

The MHBA thanks those selfless volunteers, especially Nancy Schrumpf, Tina Walters, Helaine Slatnick and her grandson Hunter, and Maryanna Skowronski, who worked throughout the process.

"The library will serve such a broad community," said Wilson. "While the collection will certainly create wonderful research and browsing opportunity to the Maryland community, it will provide a focus on not just the history, but the significance of equine culture in Maryland and the U.S.

"The collection is a wonderful learning experience for young people as well as providing a support to workforce development by highlighting career interests and potential for students."

While a date for the official ribbon-cutting in November has not been set, the library, which is non-lending, is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Maryland-bred Stakes Winners

Blind Spot wins stakes debut

Ryan Thompson / Coglianese Photography

Going into the Our Dear Peggy Stakes at Gulfstream Park Sept. 17, expectations were high for Blind Spot. The 2-year-old filly lived up to them with a three-quarter-length victory.

The gray/roan daughter of Cross Traffic finished a strong second in her debut at Gulfstream July 29, then broke her maiden Aug. 28. For the Our Dear Peggy, she stretched out to two turns for the first time and switched from dirt to Tapeta. She went off as the 17-10 favorite in the 10-horse field.

Breaking well, she was eager to run and fought jockey Edgard Zayas through the first three-sixteenths of a mile. She eventually settled into fifth while racing off a slow early tempo.

Around the final turn, Zayas began to ask Blind Spot, and she moved after the leaders in the three path. At the top of the stretch, she drew alongside Stephanie's Charm and Vai Via. The move stalled somewhat, and Zayas once again got into his filly. She struck the front at the sixteenth pole and held on. The final time for 1 mile and 70 yards was 1:43.21.

Less than three weeks later trainer Saffie Joseph Jr. sent her out in Keeneland's Grade 2 Jessamine Stakes on the turf but, after a bit of an adventure (brushed at the start, jumping tracks and needing racing room turning for home), she faded to finish ninth of 12.

Blind Spot has two wins in four tries, for earnings of $72,800 for C2 Racing Stable and Stefania Farms after C2 Racing spent $125,000 at the OBS April 2-year-old sale.

She was bred by Country Life Farm and Your Flame in Me LLC out of stakes-winning Your Flame in Me, a Maryland-bred daughter of Boundary descending from the family of C. Oliver Goldsmith's Maryland Broodmare of the Year Turn Capp. Your Flame in Me was purchased for $28,000 by Country Life at Keeneland November in 2018 in foal to California Chrome.

Blind Spot is Your Flame in Me's eighth winner from as many foals to race, and her second stakes winner. Her first, Bodyguard Hero, won the Surat Stakes in Turkey in 2018. She has also produced six-figure earners English Dancer and She's Fire and Ice. Her last reported foal is a yearling son of Divining Rod.

Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
July 1 to July 31, 2022

Breeder bonuses

Includes the additional 10 percent Maryland-sired bonus for winners of maiden races, initiated Jan. 1 during the 2022 Laurel winter meet. That bonus is reflected in the second figure earned for the race.

Leo J. Ambrogi—Mr. Fibonacci: July 9, 7th race, $562.50.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—Al Loves Josie: July 9, 8th race, $7,290; July 30, 7th race, $1,687.50. Gennie Highway: July 29, 6th race, $1,170. Winked: July 9, 6th race, $2,340. ($12,487.50)

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc. and Copper Penny Stables—Boss Angel: July 8, 8th race, $4,860/$1,620. ($6,480)

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc. and Finn's Nickel, LLC—R B's the Boss: July 15, 10th race, $990.

Barak Farm—Fivecommatwo: July 8, 6th race, $1,170; July 30, 1st race, $2,340. One Ten: July 8, 2nd race, $967.50. ($4,477.50)

Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC—Alottacents: July 31, 2nd race, $1,170.

Barak Farm and Sharon Dodgen—Backnthewoods: July 9, 8th race, $1,215.

Estate of Earl Barnhart—Love You Much: July 3, 6th race, $1,305.

William Bayne—Bernie's On Fire: July 8, 4th race, $2,295.

William Bayne and Super C Racing—Bliss This: July 15, 6th race, $1,125.

BB Horses—Ladro Di Fichi: July 28, 5th race, $2,340.

Best A Luck Farm LLC—Pickin Sea Glass: July 15, 5th race, $5,940/$1,980. ($7,920)

Big Lick Farm—Cavalier Cupid: July 22, 7th race, $7,830.

Black Fox Farm—Auspicious Lad: July 9, 7th race, $1,125.

David Benjamin Bloom—Bullets Lady: July 16, 1st race, $630.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—The Last Scip: July 2, 4th race, $1,620; July 16, 3rd race, $990. ($2,610)

Bonita Farm—Kobe Tough: July 3, 7th race, $7,290. Sommer Velvet: July 16, 11th race, $1,080. ($8,370)

Bonita Farm and Partners—Evangeline Allons: July 28, 4th race, $787.50.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—He Rolls: July 3, 5th race, $1,170.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Alottahope: July 30, 7th race, $10,125. Foxtrot Seville: July 3, 9th race, $3,915/$1,305. Tanka Tough: July 23, 3rd race, $652.50. ($15,997.50)

Dr and Mrs Thomas Bowman, Brooke Bowman and R. Larry Johnson—By the Sey Shore: July 3, 7th race, $1,215.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Alwaysinahurry: July 10, 7th race, $2,790.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky Buckley and Joshua Dreiband—Divine Huntress: July 30, 5th race, $10,125. Dr. Ferber: July 23, 10th race, $3,240. ($13,365)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Claire's Darling: July 17, 3rd race, $900; July 29, 6th race, $3,510. Queen Sheba: July 3, 2nd race, $990; July 22, 1st race, $990. ($6,390)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Rebecca Davis and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Dry Well: July 10, 2nd race, $3,645.

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Don't Tell Deren: July 23, 4th race, $4,860.

Bowman and Higgins Stable and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Unrequited Love: July 31, 6th race, $1,440.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Skeedattle Associates—Cynergy's Star: July 15, 8th race, $6,480.

William Andrew Campbell—Bad Temper: July 10, 2nd race, $607.50.

Louis C. Carrico—Divine Proportion: July 4, 6th race, $1,080.

Randy L. Cohen and Alyse L. Cohen—Honor My World: July 22, 3rd race, $3,645.

Country Life Farm—Maid the Journey: July 29, 7th race, $3,510.

Country Life Farm and Atlantic Tide LLC—Camelia Rod: July 1, 7th race, $1,575; July 28, 3rd race, $787.50. ($2,362.50)

Country Life Farm and Broken Trust Fund LLC—Wicked Prankster: July 8, 7th race, $1,080.

Country Life Farm and Curio Broodmare LLC—Targe: July 22, 2nd race, $1,080.

Country Life Farm and Imagistic Broodmare II LLC—Sweet Talia: July 29, 2nd race, $3,105.

Country Life Farm and Moon Map Broodmare LLC—Tommy Shelby: July 23, 2nd race, $720.

Country Life Farm and Rock Sapphire LLC—Sapphire Beauty: July 29, 5th race, $810.

Country Roads Ltd.—Utterly Courageous: July 3, 2nd race, $5,940/$1,980; July 29, 9th race, $5,805. ($13,725)

CRK Stable LLC—Mejoramiga: July 17, 8th race, $562.50.

Crystal Park Stables Inc.—Carolina Ice: July 10, 8th race, $1,170.

Dark Hollow Farm—Betcha by Golly: July 1, 5th race, $1,170; July 23, 7th race, $1,170. Consultant: July 28, 2nd race, $967.50. Ellanation: July 30, 6th race, $3,375. Free Admission: July 15, 1st race, $990; July 15, 9th race, $2,160. ($9,832.50)

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidov—Combat Queen: July 23, 9th race, $1,215.

Dark Hollow Farm, D. Brown, Davidov and Schwaber—Dr Rags: July 15, 6th race, $562.50; July 29, 3rd race, $3,915. ($4,477.50)

Rebecca Davis and Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—Namajunas: July 23, 4th race, $810.

D. Hatman Thoroughbreds LLC—Audacious Quality: July 8, 7th race, $6,480; July 31, 7th race, $7,830. ($14,310)

Dragon's Lair Farm LLC—Like n' Eagle: July 3, 9th race, $652.50; July 23, 6th race, $652.50. ($1,305)

Annette Eubanks and Daniel Eubanks—Lookin Spunky: July 8, 8th race, $810. Rockinhippiechick: July 1, 7th race, $4,725. ($5,535)

Charles D. and Dianne E. Fawley—Missawlet: July 23, 6th race, $1,305.

Steve R. Ferguson—Rapid Response: July 4, 4th race, $2,970.

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—Gormley's Gabriela: July 15, 1st race, $5,940.

Gainesway Thoroughbreds Limited—Petition Prayer: July 30, 5th race, $1,687.50.

Robert J. Gerczak—Antipoison: July 23, 5th race, $3,240. Miss Old Bay: July 1, 3rd race, $3,240. ($6,480)

Germania Farms Inc.—Scintillio: July 29, 3rd race, $652.50.

Glenangus Farm LLC—Colorofacloud: July 4, 2nd race, $3,375. Eifs: July 10, 8th race, $585; July 23, 8th race, $1,215. ($5,175)

Keith A. Harpster—Lunar Dash: July 15, 5th race, $1,980; July 30, 4th race, $2,340. ($4,320)

Highclere and Five Hellions Farm—Free Square: July 3, 8th race, $5,940.

Hillwood Stable LLC—Call Me Plucky: July 17, 5th race, $1,215.

Holly House Farm—Summer Odds: July 10, 6th race, $1,080.

Jagger Inc.—Berks: July 9, 8th race, $2,430.

R. Larry Johnson—Baffle 'Em: July 9, 4th race, $1,935. Believeinrocknroll: July 29, 1st race, $810. Class Wizard: July 29, 1st race, $1,620. Heldish: July 1, 4th race, $5,940/$1,980. Hollywood Walk: July 4, 5th race, $5,940. In Vain: July 3, 2nd race, $1,980; July 22, 1st race, $1,980. Spun Glass: July 30, 6th race, $10,125. Twelveo'clockrock: July 4, 9th race, $3,915; July 28, 3rd race, $4,725. ($40,950)

Harry Kassap LLC—My Thoughts: July 15, 7th race, $2,160. Samui Sunset: July 4, 3rd race, $900; July 22, 5th race, $1,440. ($4,500)

Steven D. Keil and Caitlin Keil—Aliferous: July 28, 2nd race, $5,805.

Gordon Keys—Grateful Bred: July 30, 8th race, $3,375.

David N. Krasnoff—Solomon's Choice: July 16, 5th race, $1,305.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Holy Synchronicity: July 22, 4th race, $787.50. Martharita: July 9, 2nd race, $1,035. Night Boss: July 31, 5th race, $1,305. Show'em Who's Boss: July 2, 5th race, $3,645. ($6,772.50)

Carl Lanier—Box N Ben: July 1, 4th race, $1,980.

James Lee Lawrence II and Lawrence Stables Inc.—Caged Pixie: July 17, 8th race, $3,375/$1,125. ($4,500)

Little Man Farm—Benny Havens: July 17, 5th race, $2,430.

Kenneth F. Lowe Jr.—Special Freedom: July 1, 3rd race, $540.

Estate of Robert T. Manfuso—Chauffeur: July 15, 2nd race, $607.50.

Robert T. Manfuso, Katharine M. Voss and Casey J. Randall—Twice Gold: July 15, 3rd race, $990.

Marathon Farm Inc.—Super E: July 1, 9th race, $3,645.

Mary E. Eppler Racing Stable and A. Leonard Pineau—Amicalola Falls: July 16, 6th race, $517.50.

Ann Warfield Merryman and Richard F. Blue Jr.—Gift of Gab: July 23, 1st race, $652.50.

Bryan B. Minnich—Keys Discount: July 17, 1st race, $1,620.

Kevin P. Morgan—Mavilus: July 1, 5th race, $585; July 23, 7th race, $585. Rahmer: July 10, 3rd race, $810. ($1,980)

Morgan's Ford Farm—Nicolar: July 15, 7th race, $1,080.

Edmund T. Mudge IV—Hindenburg: July 29, 3rd race, $1,305. Sorolla: July 16, 5th race, $3,915/$1,305. ($6,525)

Maryland sires' Breeding Statistics for 2021

Breeding Statistics for 2021 released by The Jockey Club show Maryland ranks sixth among states and provinces, with 481 live foals in 2022 by Maryland sires (through early October reports).

The number represents an 8.2 percent decline from 2021, when 524 foals were reported. The Jockey Club estimates that the number of live foals reported so far is approximately 85-90 percent complete.

In 2021, 780 mares were bred to 26 Maryland stallions. Northview Stallion Station's Golden Lad led the way among Maryland stallions, with 49 live foal reports from 77 mares covered.

The following Maryland stallions also reported 20 or more live foals in 2022:

- Hoppertunity, Northview Stallion Station (44)
- Holy Boss, Anchor and Hope Farm (41)
- Great Notion, Northview Stallion Station (39)
- Uncle Lino, Northview Stallion Station (39)
- Mosler, Country Life Farm (33)
- Irish War Cry, Northview Stallion Station (30)
- Divining Rod, Country Life Farm (28)
- Madefromlucky, Northview Stallion Station (28)
- Blofeld, Murmur Farm (20)

In total, The Jockey Club reported that 1,303 stallions covered 29,065 mares during 2021, a decline from the 1,447 stallions who covered 29,699 mares in 2020.

Maryland-bred top earners in 2022

(through October 1)

1. Knicks Go	$585,000	11. Cordmaker	$195,000
2. Fille d'Esprit	304,455	12. Joe	194,744
3. Alottahope	277,175	13. Mama G's Wish	174,765
4. Field Pass	270,328	14. Proper Attire	157,758
5. Eastern Bay	266,507	15. Jaxon Traveler	153,100
6. Luna Belle	255,000	16. Malibu Beauty	150,380
7. Divine Huntress	224,555	17. Spun Glass	146,640
8. Whereshetoldmetogo	207,504	18. Plot the Dots	143,039
9. Breviary	196,837	19. Uncle Irish	141,917
10. Aloha West	196,222	20. Crabs N Beer	141,259

Murmur Farm—Elusive Agent: July 16, 2nd race, $2,340. Goldenize: July 15, 8th race, $2,160. ($4,500)

Audrey R. Murray—Pounding Music: July 28, 4th race, $1,575.

Nancy Lee Farms—Polish Cookie: July 8, 8th race, $1,620; July 29, 5th race, $4,860/$1,620. ($8,100)

No Guts No Glory Farm—Big Daddy D R: July 10, 5th race, $652.50. General J R: July 9, 3rd race, $2,340; July 31, 2nd race, $2,340. ($5,332.50)

David W. Palmer—Preparefortakeoff: July 17, 6th race, $5,940.

A. Leonard Pineau—No More Mask: July 31, 6th race, $4,320.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—Jaxon Traveler: July 30, 8th race, $1,687.50. Miss Foxann: July 2, 5th race, $1,215. My Candy Girl: July 30, 2nd race, $5,400. R B's Star: July 9, 4th race, $5,805. ($14,107.50)

Avla R. Pitts—Zola B: July 2, 1st race, $3,645.

Vivian E. Rall—Great Idea: July 4, 1st race, $1,935.

Randy Ridgely and Gary Ridgely—Wicked Hot: July 2, 6th race, $1,215.

Eric A. Rizer and Nancy M. Rizer—Subject to Change: July 4, 4th race, $495.

Timothy J. Rooney—B Determined: July 8, 7th race, $2,160. Dancing Sophia: July 4, 5th race, $990. Gals Gal: July 22, 1st race, $5,940/$1,980. Lisheen: July 15, 7th race, $6,480. Premiere Choice: July 15, 9th race, $6,480. ($24,030)

Sagamore Farm LLC—Maryland Pride: July 30, 10th race, $630.

Marcus A. Scott—Bashdaflash: July 15, 5th race, $990.

Shamrock Farm—Sue Loves Barbados: July 3, 7th race, $2,430.

Skeedattle Associates—Cush Effect: July 9, 1st race, $1,170. Hot Choice: July 16, 1st race, $1,260. ($2,430)

Mary Slade—Island Philo: July 30, 6th race, $1,687.50.

Franklin G. Smith Sr.—Spencerian: July 30, 1st race, $7,020/$2,340. ($9,360)

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton A. Smith—Stone Courageous: July 10, 3rd race, $1,620.

Hamilton Smith, Fred Greene Jr. and Deborah Greene—The Poser: July 4, 7th race, $2,610.

South Branch Equine LLC—Favorite Image: July 1, 9th race, $1,215. Fleeting Atte: July 16, 3rd race, $1,980. ($3,195)

Matt Spencer and Kelly Cox—Ain't Da Beer Cold: July 29, 8th race, $7,830.

Spendthrift Farm LLC—Breviary: July 10, 8th race, $3,510; July 23, 7th race, $3,510. ($7,020)

John D. Stuart—Friar Tuck: July 1, 8th race, $2,430.

Swillcan Stables LLC—Mr Thrifty: July 10, 4th race, $3,510.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Daddy's Cozy: July 8, 3rd race, $3,780. Dulce Kiara: July 1, 3rd race, $1,080; July 16, 11th race, $3,240. Foul Balls: July 29, 5th race, $1,620. I'm Not Slow: July 15, 4th race, $1,035. Sweet Gracie: July 10, 6th race, $2,160; July 30, 5th race, $3,375. War and Roses: July 29, 1st race, $4,860. Whiteknuckleflyer: July 10, 6th race, $6,480. ($27,630)

Thomas L. Teal—Rad Paisley: July 22, 6th race, $7,290.

Team Gaudet—Kobe's Girl: July 17, 8th race, $1,125.

The Elkstone Group, LLC—Eye'n a Deal: July 16, 5th race, $652.50. Monster Mason: July 15, 9th race, $1,080. Plot the Dots: July 30, 9th race, $4,500. Senator Kelly: July 10, 5th race, $1,305. ($7,537.50)

The Etched Racing Partnership—Acadian Girl: July 1, 5th race, $3,510.

Thornmar Farm LLC—Blue Collar Boom: July 30, 3rd race, $7,290. Canoodle: July 2, 6th race, $2,430; July 23, 9th race, $2,430. Dendrobia: July 3, 4th race, $2,790. Please Marry Me: July 3, 9th race, $1,305. Raise Your Game: July 9, 9th race, $810. Startwithabang: July 10, 2nd race, $1,215; July 22, 2nd race, $3,240. Tall Order: July 15, 10th race, $1,980. The Wolfman: July 15, 8th race, $1,080. ($24,570)

Thornmar Farm and Colleen Torsney—Justwaveandsmile: July 3, 6th race, $7,830; July 30, 8th race, $10,125. ($17,955)

Walter N. Vieser II—Flimsy: July 28, 8th race, $5,940. Torre Branca: July 9, 4th race, $967.50. ($6,907.50)

Robert S. Vukelic—Crouchelli: July 16, 4th race, $1,800; July 29, 8th race, $2,610. ($4,410)

Mr. and Mrs. Bayne Welker Jr.—Deshackled: July 8, 4th race, $382.50.

Winding Creek Farm—Never Free: July 2, 2nd race, $1,620. She's Mo Better: July 1, 7th race, $787.50. ($2,407.50)

Eric J. Wirth—Candy Corner: July 29, 2nd race, $517.50.

Helena Wright—Sick Pack Sara: July 17, 4th race, $990.

Mrs. Frank P. Wright—Power Back: July 4, 1st race, $5,805; July 17, 5th race, $7,290. ($13,095)

WWCD LLC—Mattitude: July 3, 4th race, $1,395.

Stallion bonuses

BALTIMORE BOB (Gals Gal: July 22, 1st race, $1,980): Robert Gerczak.

BANDBOX (Box N Ben: July 1, 4th race, $660. Dulce Kiara: July 1, 3rd race, $360; July 16, 11th race, $1,080. Like n' Eagle: July 3, 9th race, $217.50; July 23, 6th race, $217.50. Pickin Sea Glass: July 15, 5th race, $1,980. Sweet Gracie: July 10, 6th race, $720; July 30, 5th race, $1,125. The Poser: July 4, 7th race, $870. The Wolfman: July 15, 8th race, $360): Bandbox Syndicate—$7,590.

BARBADOS (Island Philo: July 30, 6th race, $562.50. Sue Loves Barbados: July 3, 7th race, $810): Shamrock Farm—$1,372.50.

BLOFELD (Elusive Agent: July 16, 2nd race, $780. Goldenize: July 15, 8th race, $720): Blofeld Syndicate—$1,500.

BOURBON COURAGE (Martharita: July 9, 2nd race, $345. Senator Kelly: July 10, 5th race, $435. Solomon's Choice: July 16, 5th race, $435. Stone Courageous: July 10, 3rd race, $540. Utterly Courageous: July 3, 2nd race, $1,980; July 29, 9th race, $1,935): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$5,670.

CAGE FIGHTER (Caged Pixie: July 17, 8th race, $1,125): James L. Lawrence II.

DESPITE THE ODDS (Summer Odds: July 10, 6th race, $360. Unrequited Love: July 31, 6th race, $480): R. Larry Johnson—$840.

DIVINING ROD (Bliss This: July 15, 6th race, $375. Camelia Rod: July 1, 7th race, $525; July 28, 3rd race, $262.50. Divine Huntress: July 30, 5th race, $3,375. Dry Well: July 10, 2nd race, $1,215. Petition Prayer: July 30, 5th race, $562.50. Sweet Talia: July 29, 2nd race, $1,035): Divining Rod Syndicate—$7,350.

DORTMUND (Evangeline Allons: July 28, 4th race, $262.50. Sommer Velvet: July 16, 11th race, $360): Kaleem S. Shah—$622.50.

EDITORIAL (Alottahope: July 30, 7th race, $3,375. My Thoughts: July 15, 7th race, $720): Climax Stallions LLC—$4,095.

FREEDOM CHILD (Ain't Da Beer Cold: July 29, 8th race, $2,610. Free Square: July 3, 8th race, $1,980. Special Freedom: July 1, 3rd race, $180): Freedom Child Syndicate—$4,590.

FRIESAN FIRE (Bernie's On Fire: July 8, 4th race, $765. Hot Choice: July 16, 1st race, $420): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$1,185.

GOLDEN LAD (Auspicious Lad: July 9, 7th race, $375 Rahmer: July 10, 3rd race, $270. Sick Pack Sara: July 17, 4th race, $330. Twice Gold: July 15, 3rd race, $330): Golden Lad Syndicate—$1,305.

GREAT NOTION (Alwaysinahurry: July 10, 7th race, $930. Cynergy's Star: July 15, 8th race, $2,160. Grateful Bred: July 30, 8th race, $1,125. Great Idea: July 4, 1st race, $645. Heldish: July 1, 4th race, $1,980. Mattitude: July 3, 4th race, $465. Rapid Response: July 4, 4th race, $990): Great Notion Syndicate—$8,295.

HANGOVER KID (Pounding Music: July 28, 4th race, $525): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

HOLY BOSS (Al Loves Josie: July 9, 8th race, $2,430; July 30, 7th race, $562.50. Boss Angel: July 8, 8th race, $1,620. General J R: July 9, 3rd race, $780; July 31, 2nd race, $780. Holy Synchronicity: July 22, 4th race, $262.50. Lunar Dash: July 15, 5th race, $660; July 30, 4th race, $780. Night Boss: July 31, 5th race, $435. R B's the Boss: July 15, 10th race, $330. Show'em Who's Boss: July 2, 5th race, $1,215): Holy Boss Syndicate—$9,855.

HUNTERS BAY (Eifs: July 10, 8th race, $195; July 23, 8th race, $405): Stronach Group LP—$600.

IMAGINING (Claire's Darling: July 17, 3rd race, $300; July 29, 6th race, $1,170. Favorite Image: July 1, 9th race, $405. Hindenburg: July 29, 3rd race, $435. Winked: July 9, 6th race, $780): Imagining Syndicate—$3,090.

IRISH WAR CRY (Fivecommatwo: July 8, 6th race, $390. July 30, 1st race, $780. Spencerian: July 30, 1st race, $2,340): Northview Stallion Station Inc.—$3,510.

KENDALLS BEAR (Missawlet: July 23, 6th race, $435): Dianne Fawley.

KOBE'S BACK (Kobe Tough: July 3, 7th race, $2,430. Kobe's Girl: July 17, 8th race, $375): Bonita Farm—$2,805.

MADEFROMLUCKY (Lookin Spunky: July 8, 8th race, $270): Madefromlucky Syndicate.

MOSLER (Big Daddy D R: July 10, 5th race, $217.50. Sapphire Beauty: July 29, 5th race, $270. Wicked Hot: July 2, 6th race, $405. Wicked Prankster: July 8, 7th race, $360): Mosler Syndicate—$1,252.50.

NICANOR (Miss Old Bay: July 1, 3rd race, $1,080): Nicanor Syndicate.

NO NEVER NO MORE (Never Free: July 2, 2nd race, $540): Tigertail Ranch.

NORUMBEGA (Acadian Girl: July 1, 5th race, $1,170): Bonita Farm and Stuart Janney III LLC.

NOT ABROAD (Namajunas: July 23, 4th race, $270): Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman.

NOT FOR LOVE (Love You Much: July 3, 6th race, $435): Not For Love Syndicate.

ORIENTATE (Mavilus: July 1, 5th race, $195; July 23, 7th race, $195): Orientate Syndicate—$390.

OUTFLANKER (Benny Havens: July 17, 5th race, $810. Crouchelli: July 16, 4th race, $600; July 29, 8th race, $870): Outflanker Syndicate—$2,280.

REDEEMED (Mr. Fibonacci: July 9, 7th race, $187.50): Redeemed Syndicate.

SCIPION (The Last Scip: July 2, 4th race, $540. The Last Scip: July 16, 3rd race, $330): Scipion Syndicate—$870.

SEVILLE (GER) (Bullets Lady: July 16, 1st race, $210. Foxtrot Seville: July 3, 9th race, $1,305. Gennie Highway: July 29, 6th race, $390. Polish Cookie: July 8, 8th race, $540; July 29, 5th race, $1,620. Queen Sheba: July 3, 2nd race, $330; July 22, 1st race, $330. Samui Sunset: July 4, 3rd race, $300; July 22, 5th race, $480. Sorolla: July 16, 5th race, $1,305): Seville Syndicate—$6,810.

STREET MAGICIAN (By the Sey Shore: July 3, 7th race, $405. Class Wizard: July 29, 1st race, $540. Cush Effect: July 9, 1st race, $390. Tanka Tough: July 23, 3rd race, $217.50): R. Larry Johnson—$1,552.50.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Bad Temper: July 10, 2nd race, $202.50. Breviary: July 10, 8th race, $1,170. July 23, 7th race, $1,170. Maid the Journey: July 29, 7th race, $1,170. Tommy Shelby: July 23, 2nd race, $240): Country Life Farm—$3,952.50.

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THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **November 2022** -

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Smithwick's Spice continues win streak in Joey P.

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

New Spice Stable's homebred Smithwick's Spice won his third consecutive race and first stakes success in the $85,000 Joey P. Handicap at Monmouth Park Sept. 18.

Smithwick's Spice sat in the second position right off leader Like What I See through a quarter mile of :22.45 and half in :45.00. The Doug Nunn trainee moved past Like What I See and drew off under jockey Jairo Rendon in the final sixteenth of a mile for an easy 3-length win in :56.84.

Smithwick's Spice started his streak Aug. 7, in a $12,500 starter allowance at Monmouth. He then won a first-level allowance at the track Aug. 26 before contesting the Joey P.

Smithwick's Spice has seven wins in 24 starts, for earnings of $363,437. The son of Frost Giant out of New Jersey-bred Spicy McHaggis, by Good and Tough, stakes-placed at 2 when second in Delaware Park's First State Dash, is 3-for-3 over the Monmouth Park turf.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY / 265 HIGHWAY 36, SUITE 1R, WEST LONG BRANCH, NJ 07764
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Bramble Bay wins Pinot Grigio for new connections

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Michael Dubb's Bramble Bay, who was the 123-pound highweight in the Pinot Grigio, won the 5-furlong turf race for New Jersey-bred fillies and mares Sept. 18 at Monmouth Park.

Bramble Bay tracked the pace set by Roselba, racing along the inside before being angled out by jockey Paco Lopez at the top of the lane. The 6-year-old mare passed a resilient Roselba in deep stretch to prevail by ½ a length.

Bramble Bay, who was claimed by trainer Mike Maker for her owner for $62,500 Aug. 3 at Saratoga, won the third stakes race of her career, having previously been successful in the Jersey Girl Handicap in 2020 and 2022. The daughter of Bullet Train (GB) out of Regal Rose, by Empire Maker, bred by Ballybrit Stable now has a record of eight wins from 32 starts for earnings of $449,413.

Monmouth Park shows solid gains in handle as meet comes to a close

Monmouth Park showed a 25.2 percent increase in total handle and a 16.07 percent increase in on-track handle while Paco Lopez won his ninth riding title and Claudio Gonzalez earned his first training title as the Jersey Shore track closed out its 77th season Sept. 18.

Total handle was $217,243,199 this summer compared to $173,511,611 a year ago. On track handle was $17,753,794 in 2022 compared to $15,216,978 a year ago.

Total attendance was 368,101.

Monmouth ran 60 live days of racing this year compared to 55 a year ago.

"We're extremely pleased by the increase in handle for the 2022 meet, which we feel is a reflection of the quality of the product we were able to offer and the commitment from the horsemen to our program," said Dennis Drazin, Chairman and CEO of Darby Development LLC, operators of Monmouth Park. "The numbers show the strength of our product and the willingness of bettors to wager on it.

"From start to finish this was a meet everyone involved with Monmouth Park can be proud of, highlighted by Cyberknife's track record performance in the TVG.com Haskell Stakes. As we look forward to 2023, we want Monmouth Park fans and horsemen to know they can count on our ongoing commitment with additional facilities upgrades and to the highest quality of racing we can offer."

Lopez, 36, easily outdistanced the competition with 91 wins. His nine riding titles leave him behind only Joe Bravo's 13 for the most in Monmouth Park history.

He punctuated his latest title with a four-win day on closing Sunday.

"Every title for anyone I think is special," said Lopez. "It's going to be hard to catch Joe Bravo but I'm going to try. It's not going to be easy.

"But I am going to enjoy this one. Winning the title at Monmouth Park is always special for me. I'm very grateful to all of the owners and trainers who put me up on horses and helped me have success."

Gonzalez, who started his career at Monmouth Park as an assistant to Ben Perkins Jr. in 1995, owns 16 training titles at Laurel and two at Pimlico. But winning one at Monmouth Park, he said, is particularly meaningful.

He finished with 32 wins, three better than runner-up Kelly Breen.

"I started here. I still feel like this is my home," Gonzalez said of Monmouth Park. "I feel this one is special for me. I really wanted to win the title here this year, especially after we got off to such a fast start. And we got it. I'm very happy. I have a great crew of workers. Any time you win a title it's a team effort."

Leading owner wound up as a four-way tie with eight wins for Bergen Racing, Dave Gruskos, Monster Racing and the partnership of Joseph and Gayle Ioia and Chuck Spina.

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

John Bowers' homebred He'spuregold was the leading NJ-bred at the 2022 Monmouth Park meet, among his three wins in four starts were the Irish War Cry Handicap (left) in July and the Charles Hesse III in August.

Top 10 highest-earning New Jersey-breds

During the 61-day Monmouth Park meet from May 8-September 17.

Horse	Breeder	Earnings
He'spuregold	John Bowers, Jr.	$182,400
Smithwick's Spice	New Spice Stable, LLC	$161,862
Irish Boolum	Isabelle de Tomaso	$143,405
I Can Run	Bright View Farm	$142,350
Speaking	Holly Crest Farm	$140,425
Last Romance	Hope H. Jones & Isabelle de Tomaso	$133,781
Mia's Crusade	Joseph & Gayle Ioia	$133,281
There Are No Words	California Chrome Syndicate, George & Margaret Schwartz	$131,100
Dr. Doyle	Jonathan Brown	$115,956
Bramble Bay	Ballybrit Stable, LLC	$111,350
Pogi	Law Legacy Stables	$108,350
Get Groovy	Hope H. Jones	$108,200
Perspicacious	Sequel Stallions & Joan Milne	$93,937
Caliente Rum	Kenneth W. Miller, III	$91,287
Her Name Is Lola	Bergen Stables	$91,206

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

Membership Application

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☐ Owner — An owner member shall be a person who owns a registered New Jersey- bred; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. An owner member will not have voting rights.

☐ Associate — An associate member is a person who is interested in owning, breeding, or racing horses in the State of New Jersey or in fostering economic activity through the breeding, ownership and/or racing of horses in the State of New Jersey. An associate member will not have voting rights.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Membership Dues

A check or money order for $65.00 must accompany this form. Spouses are encouraged to join the **TBANJ** under joint membership status. This fee would total $100.00 per couple. Each spouse must fill out a separate form to accompany the payment. Membership will be effective upon receipt and will be in force each calendar year and must be renewed annually.

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
265 Hwy 36
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W. Long Branch, NJ 07764
(732) 542-8880
email: njbreds@gmail.com

North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

November 2022

President's message

I want to give a shout out to member Art Bauer. One of his fillies, North Carolina-bred Stylish Girlfriend, is now in training in Camden, S.C. In addition to that progress, he also formed a now-sold out racing partnership around her. With Art at the helm as the managing member, nine others have joined him in NC Born and Bred LLC. He admitted being selective about who could buy in. Only those looking to have fun are welcome to be a part of this venture. Those looking to make money or have a champion horse need to look elsewhere.

Member Gerald Eckhardt, who owns 2-year-old Hartful Hope, an Art Bauer-bred filly, reports that she was in Kentucky training for a race. Unfortunately, she was dealt a setback due to shin splints and is resting in layup. He expects her to get back on the track soon.

Caroline Cooper and I traveled to Presque Isle Downs to watch and meet our 2-year-old, Deceitful, run his second race. He went off the favorite and did not disappoint. Seeing him break his maiden, coming from behind, was a thrill and agony simultaneously. Our trainer was gracious enough to let us lead him into the winner's circle. Hopefully, we will do that again soon. Also, we liked the track and the people in Erie, Pa. It wasn't easy to travel there, but it was well worth the effort.

Gerald Eckhardt's Hartful Hope, a juvenile filly bred in North Carolina by Art Bauer, is shown breezing in Camden.

Unfortunately, the sports betting bill allowing North Carolina residents the ability to gamble on sports, failed by one vote. Some legislators didn't support the bill because they disapprove of betting, while others did not vote for it because it excluded college sports. So, the bill was sent back for rewriting. Fingers crossed.

Congratulations to everyone whose horses got to the track. Don't forget to renew your membership. It's that time of year again. Membership renewals and champion horse nomination forms should arrive in your mailbox shortly. Thanks for all your support.

/Rebecca Montaldo

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Racing Review

Flat Out Flying, by Flat Out out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge, won Aug. 25 at Delaware Park for breeder Beth Muirhead. With back-to-back wins, the 6-year-old chestnut gelding covered 1 1/16 miles in 1:45.27. Running near the back of the pack, he moved into a stalking position, swung out around the front runners racing to the lead at the top of the stretch, and won by 4 lengths.

Condemnation, by Speightster out of Southern Silence, by Dixie Union, won an allowance Aug. 26 at Belterra Park for owner Caroline Cooper – Check Racing. The 3-year-old bay gelding ran 6 furlongs in 1:12.49. Condemnation took the lead at the quarter pole and pulled clear to win by a length.

Danz a Rebel, by Revolutionary out of Sister Chelsey, by Chelsey Cat, won Sept. 6 at Assiniboia for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 6-year-old bay gelding won his second race in a row by going 5½ furlongs in 1:06.40. Danza Rebel stalked from the inside and moved from the rail to take the lead late, winning by 1¼ lengths.

Duke of Cork, by Denis of Cork out of Gold Butter, by Gold Token, won Sept. 7 at Charles Town for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowery. The 4-year-old dark bay or brown gelding ran 6½ furlongs in 1:22.80. Duke of Cork rated from the inside, took the lead at the quarter pole and kept to the task down the lane, winning by 1¼ lengths.

Deceitful, by Hard Spun out of Girls Secret, by Giant's Causeway won Sept. 12 at Presque Isle Downs for owners Caroline Cooper and Rebecca Montaldo. The 2-year-old colt broke his maiden at second asking by going 1 mile in 1:40.10.

Running mid-pack through the second turn, gained position steadily by going wide, he came four-wide in the stretch while picking off his foes and drove clear to win by 1¼ lengths.

Afleet Arlene, by Afleet Alex out of Rinella Bay, by Roman Ruler, won at first asking at Churchill Downs Sept. 18 for breeder/owner Denise Walsh's Never Better Stables. The 3-year-old gray or roan filly ran 7 furlongs in 1:23.63. Afleet Arlene set the pace, ran comfortably on the lead, and was clearly the best as she drew off by 9½ lengths.

Astonish, by Street Boss out of Ariana D, by Rock Slide, broke her maiden Sept. 24 at Woodbine for breeder/owner William Thompson Jr. The 3-year-old dark bay or brown filly ran 1 1/16 miles in 1:46.36 on an all-weather track. Astonish was held back entering the backstretch to stalk the pace at the half, contested the pace on the turn, and took over going four-wide in mid-stretch, winning by 1¼ lengths.

Caroline Cooper and Rebecca Montaldo's 2-year-old Hard Spun colt Deceitful wins at Presque Isle in September as the odds-on favorite in his second start. Photo by Coady Photography.

Hitting the Board

August 25 to September 24, 2022

Date	Horse	Track	NCTA Connection	RESULTS
25-Aug	Flat Out Flying	Delaware Park	Bred by Beth Muirhead & Frank Coniglio	WINNER!
26-Aug	Condemnation	Belterra Park	Owned by Caroline Cooper	WINNER!
26-Aug	Admonish	Woodbine	Bred & owned by Bill Thompson	2nd
27-Aug	Duke of Cork	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	2nd
31-Aug	Bourbon Diversion	Saratoga	Bred & owned by Bill & Carrington Price	2nd
3-Sep	Double Tough Tiger	Gulfstream Park	Bred by Beth Muirhead	3rd
3-Sep	Gospel Way	Woodbine	Bred by Bill Thompson - Maple Lane Farm	2nd
4-Sep	Venenosa	Woodbine	Bred & owned by Bill Thompson	3rd
5-Sep	Dannyhill	Colonial Downs	Bred by Nancy Shuford	2nd
6-Sep	Danz a Rebel	Assiniboia Downs	Bred by Nancy Shuford	WINNER!
7-Sep	Duke of Cork	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	WINNER!
9-Sep	My Dixie Lass	Penn National	Bred & owned by Jim Chandley	3rd
12-Sep	Fletcher	Parx Racing	Bred & owned by Jim Chandley	2nd
12-Sep	Deceitful	Presque Isle Down	Owned by Check Racing & Rebecca	WINNER!
17-Sep	Gulfstream Way	Churchill Downs	Bred by Denise Walsh	2nd
17-Sep	Cairo Consort	Woodbine $500K Johnnie Walker Natalma S (G1)	Bred & owned by Bill Thompson -Maple Lane Farm	2nd
18-Sep	Afleet Arlene	Churchill Downs	Bred & owned by Denise Walsh	WINNER!
22-Sep	Duke of Cork	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	3rd
24-Sep	Icecap	FD Racing	Bred by Nancy Shuford	3rd
24-Sep	Gospel Way	Woodbine	Bred by Bill Thompson -Maple Lane Farm	3rd
24-Sep	Astonish	Woodbine	Bred & owned by Bill Thompson -Maple Lane Farm	WINNER!

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

November 2022
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

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In celebration of the PA Breeding Program

by Emily Shields

From Iroquois to Smarty Jones, Flatterer to Unique Bella, Pennsylvania-breds have shown they can compete with the very best. Danzig and Storm Cat helped shaped the breed, Princess of Sylmar won the Kentucky Oaks, and Alphabet Soup, Finest City, Go for Wand, Shamrock Rose and Tikkanen all won Breeders' Cup races.

With a comprehensive system of bonuses for breeders and owners, Pennsylvania is a premier place to breed and race horses. Owners from other states—including Kentucky and New Jersey—have been moving their mares to the Keystone State in pursuit of those bonuses, and have been reaping the rewards.

"You cannot beat the breeders' awards and what they are doing with the program," said Rick Molineaux, a New Jersey resident who has had as many as eight mares a year in Pennsylvania. "Where else can you breed a horse and run it for seven years or more and make that much money? With just one horse I made about $500,000 and that doesn't include the awards. It's a win-win."

Molineaux's history with Pennsylvania runs deep, as aunt Jane Baker was involved in the sport from the 1950s.

"I started breeding in 2000, but my aunt was breeding horses in Pennsylvania in the late '70s or early '80s," he said. "She was very much a senior citizen but she loved her horses."

Molineaux became involved by picking out stallions for Baker's mares. "I went to the breeding farms and they met me and my 50 questions and decided to educate me," he recalled. "The Pennsylvania breeding farms were very helpful to everybody."

Over time, Molineaux bred several major earners, including Winning the Medal, a son of Medallist who had a record of 43-7-6-9 with earnings of $461,516. He was a multiple stakes winner. Stakes-placed Estrada's Girl ran 56 times with 15 wins and 20 placings, earning $549,854. Ricky's Lite was a stakes-placed earner of $277,262, and the Vicky Schowe-bred but Molineaux-raced Aussie Mist compiled $273,886. Almost every start came in Pennsylvania.

The breeders' bonuses in maiden races are 50% to a Pennsylvania-sired and bred runner, or 25% for a non-Pennsylvania-sired state-bred. Other race conditions are 40% for dual qualifiers and 20% otherwise. As for owners, the bonuses are paid by the track, with 40% paid out from Parx, 30% at Presque Isle, and 30% at Penn National.

"Do you know how many vacations I can take due to these horses?" Molineaux joked.

Wife Liz added, "Breeding in Pennsylvania is well worth it, financially. And it's a better organization all together. The people you deal with are nice, they're more organized, the farms are well maintained. It's worth it, to us."

PA Breeding Program continued from page 1

Mark Toothaker, Stallion Sales Manager at the renowned Spendthrift Farm in Kentucky, also has become involved in Pennsylvania. “I’ve been part of the program there for quite a while,” he said. “I want to be able to breed back to Kentucky stallions while taking advantage of the program up there, so being able to foal the mare there is a plus. I was looking for a state program that had that option.”

He has found the market in Pennsylvania to be ideal. “It’s a great avenue for me to take mares I’m looking to move along. I could sell them in Kentucky but I would rather work with the breeders in Pennsylvania, give them the mare at no expense, and split the foal and the breeders’ award money.”

Toothaker makes sure to send at least one if not two mares every year. “It’s a great program,” he said. “You can run in restricted company at some of the tracks where you aren’t having to face the world. It’s a big advantage to race there and still have a chance to get black type.”

Spendthrift sent Grade 1-winning stallion Wicked Strong to Pin Oak Lane Farm in Pennsylvania for the 2021 season. “When things went south as far as commercial breeders abandoning him in Kentucky, we didn’t want to give up,” Toothaker said. “I really think he’s a great fit for the Pennsylvania breeder. He can get you a runner that goes long or short, so we’re hoping something big will pop up for him.”

David Todd Wilkinson, one of the four “Ds” in New Jersey’s Hidden Acres 4-D Farm, has become fond of the Pennsylvania program as well. “It’s actually closer for us to see our horses race,” he said. “We are about 20 minutes from Parx, where they run almost all year. And between Parx, Presque Isle and Penn National, there’s racing almost every single day.”

Wilkinson has been sending mares to Pennsylvania for eight years, and owns a breeding right to WynOaks Farm stallion Warrior’s Reward. “We just like the program,” he said. “We are the breeder, the owner, everything. So we foal out in Pennsylvania, then breed back to a PA-sire. I like that when you have a Pennsylvania sire, it’s even more money for the breeders awards. Hopefully it promotes bringing new stallions here and making the program even better.”

Wilkinson had as many as 12 mares before, but is down to four, all of which will foal in Pennsylvania in 2023. He also bred Fortheluvofbourbon, a multiple stakes winner who has won 11 of 22 starts and earned $518,120. The son of Bourbon Courage has won five starts in a row and just defended his title in the 2022 Banjo Picker Sprint on Pa Day at the Races.

The PHBA Breeding Fund distributes an average of $28 million each year in Breeders Awards, Stallion Awards, Owners Bonuses and purses for Restricted Races. With the extra funding available to owners and breeders, Pennsylvania stands as the place to develop a racehorse.

A few words from the Executive Secretary

Congratulations to the winners of the inaugural running of the Pa-Sired Pa-Bred Stallion Series! Bonuses of $50,000 were presented to the four winning trainers, led by Lupe Preciado receiving $28,333 for the first-place finish of Flor de Sombra and third with Gordian Knot. Second place money of $15,000 went to Ed Coletti for Keithsendshelloooo. Bernie Houghton and Butch Reid received $3,333 each as part of a three-way tie for third.

Thanks goes out to all the owners and trainers who participated and let’s not forget all our PA Stallions who are the lifeblood of our series.

Excitement is building for 2023 as the series will be run in three legs, SIX STAKES, at 5½ furlongs for $100,000, 6½ furlongs for $150,000, and a flat mile for $200,000. Each leg will consist of a 2yo race and a 2yo filly race. Don’t forget about the $50,000 trainer bonus for the top three point-earning horses. Nomination forms for the 2023 series are only $200 if paid by Dec. 31st of the participants yearling year. You can go to pabred.com under ‘Home’ and print the nomination form.

As a reminder, the annual Stallion and Breeding Farm Directory will be published in December. Please make sure you reserve your spot before Nov. 11th. Don’t miss out on this free service!

Please remember, for the foal crop of 2023, broodmares must be in the state by Dec. 1, 2022, or within 14 days of a public sale (within 60 days of a sale outside the U.S.) or bred back to a PA-Sire. We ask that you submit all broodmare domicile forms online. We will let everyone know when the new form is available.

As usual, please contact our office with any questions you may have. Pennsylvania is the only place to Breed & Race and remember, you ain’t seen nothing yet! Go PA!!

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Tie-3rd	LUPE PRECIADO	$3,333
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SCTOBA

South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

Racing Across the Nation

Seven horses that went through the breaking process at South Carolina training centers and farms won stakes between Aug. 26 and Sept. 17.

Three horses, Somebody's Problem, Andiamo a Firenze and Art Collector, who all were introduced to a saddle, bridle and rider at Travis Durr's Durr Training Center, found their way to the winner's circle Aug. 26. Somebody's Problem, making only her third career start and stakes debut, captured the Prairie Meadows Debutante Stakes. This 2-year-old daughter of Runhappy pushed the leader early on before taking over the lead in the turn for home and proved much the best in the stretch crossing the finish line 4¼ lengths in front.

Andiamo a Firenze, a 2-year-old colt by Speightstown, proved best in the Funny Cide Stakes at Saratoga. He dueled with others into the turn before putting them away extending his lead to 5½ lengths at the wire. In three career starts, Andiamo a Firenze has two wins and a third-place finish while racing in New York.

That evening, Art Collector won his second stakes in August, capturing the $1 million Charles Town Classic-G2. Art Collector broke on top and never looked back, finishing 4¼ lengths in front. This 5-year-old son of Bernardini now has 10 victories and $2,317,610 in career earnings.

Goddard, a graduate of Kip Elser's Kirkwood Stables in Camden, won the Labor Day Weekend Stakes at Ruidoso Downs Sept. 5. Goddard was just behind the pace until the top of the stretch. In a prolonged stretch drive, he would not be denied, winning by a half-length. In 16 career starts, Goddard has finished in the top three a total of 13 times.

After breaking his maiden at Ellis Park at the end of July, then finishing third in the Skidmore Stakes at Saratoga in August, Private Creed, a 2-year-old son of Jimmy Creed, found his way to the winner's circle following the $500,000 Golden Tote Juvenile Stakes at Kentucky Downs Sept. 8. Private Creed raced mid-pack before reaching the lead at the sixteenth-pole and while under a drive proved best by three-quarters of a length. He came up through Marcus and Crystal Ryan's Mason Springs program in Aiken. In three starts, Private Creed has two wins and a third, with career earnings already reaching $364,000.

South Carolina-bred Swayin to and Fro notched her first stakes victory at Pimlico Sept. 10 when winning the Shine Again. Developed under the watchful eye of Franklin "Goree" Smith at his Elloree Training Center, Swayin to and Fro raced head and head for the lead from the start and on into the stretch, battling to the wire and finishing a head in front. She has won six of seven starts this year.

On Sept. 17, Penguin Power recorded his seventh stakes victory by finishing first in the Last Enchantment Stakes at Charles Town. All his stakes wins have occurred at that track. Penguin Power, sitting behind the leader early on, took command in the turn and powered home to a 2½-length victory. This was the 18th time he has finished first! This 7-year-old son of Fiber Sonde came up through Robbie and Cynthia Shuler's breaking program in Orangeburg, S.C.

TOBA honors Franklin "Goree" Smith

For the 10th time in the past 12 years, Goree Smith has earned the title as South Carolina's leading breeder. He was honored at the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders' Association banquet in Lexington, Ky., Sept. 10. The Smith family has been a major player in the state of South Carolina's breeding and racing scene since the 1940s. At his Elloree Training Center, he prepares both horses and jockeys, including Hall of Fame jockey Chris Antley and Eclipse Award-winning jockey Wes Hamilton for their future careers. During 2021, Goree's SC-breds earned $397,399. We congratulate Goree, his family and the whole crew at the Elloree Training Center on a job well done.

Beverly Park records 11th victory in 2022

On Sept. 21, Beverly Park won his 11th race in 2022, a starter allowance at Churchill Downs. This tops the number of wins by a horse in North America this year. In 40 lifetime starts, Beverly Park has recorded 21 wins.

Beverly Park is a product of the McCutchen Training Center. The training center is a family business operated by SCTOBA members R.B. "Bobby" McCutchen and his wife and SCTOBA Board member Debby and son Jason. An annual event, The King's Tree Trials, will be held at the training center Nov. 5.

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	*Training Center*	*Date*	*Track*	*Type of Race*
Hannah's Haven	Elloree Training Center	08/20/22	Evangeline Downs	Allowance
Theregoesjojo	Durr Training Center	08/21/22	Woodbine	Allowance
British Artillery	Durr Training Center	08/21/22	Woodbine	Maiden Special Weight
Snowscape	Custom Care-D. Freyer	08/22/22	Belterra Park	Allowance
Dataman	Durr Training Center	08/22/22	Colonial Down	Maiden Special Weight
Eudaimonia	Rentz Farm Training Center	08/22/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Bobby Ride	Durr Training Center	08/23/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Mr. Sandman	Rentz Farm Training Center	08/23/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Ayy Ladies	Durr Training Center	08/24/22	Mountaineer	Maiden Special Weight
Live Fire	Rentz Farm Training Center	08/24/22	Penn National	Allowance
Still My Babe	Durr Training Center	08/25/22	Delaware Park	Allowance
Prove My Love	Durr Training Center	08/25/22	Delaware Park	Maiden Special Weight
Cartouche	Rentz Farm Training Center	08/25/22	Penn National	Allowance
SOMEBODY'S PROBLEM	Durr Training Center	08/26/22	Prairie Meadows	Debutante S
ANDIAMO A FIRENZE	Durr Training Center	08/26/22	Saratoga	Funny Cide S
ART COLLECTOR	Durr Training Center	08/26/22	Charles Town	Charles Town Classic-G2
Beverly Park	McCutchen Training Center	08/26/22	Timonium	Starter Allowance
Leeloo	Aiken – Cary Frommer	08/26/22	Saratoga	Allowance
Wild Mule	Durr Training Center	08/27/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
Indiantown	Durr Training Center	08/28/22	Monmouth Park	Maiden Special Weight
She's a Dime	Aiken – Cary Frommer	08/29/22	Horseshoe Indianapolis	Allowance
Witty Banter	Elloree Training Center	08/29/22	Colonial Downs	Starter Allowance
Tolaga Bay	Arch Kingsley	08/30/22	Colonial Downs	Allowance
Ulikedis	Kirkwood Stables	08/30/22	Colonial Downs	Allowance
No Easy Answer	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/01/22	Penn National	Allowance
Hit the Woah	Durr Training Center	09/02/22	Saratoga	Allowance
Irish Boolum	Durr Training Center	09/02/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
New Hire	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/02/22	Penn National	Allowance
Award Wanted	Mason Springs	09/02/22	Timonium	Allowance
Vacation Dance	James Layden	09/04/22	Saratoga	Maiden Special Weight
GODDARD	Kirkwood Stables	09/05/22	Ruidoso Downs	Labor Day Weekend S.
Get Groovy	Durr Training Center	09/05/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
Mo Trump	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/05/22	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Seven Is a Breeze	Durr Training Center	09/06/22	Fort Erie	Maiden Special Weight
Robby's Ransom	McCutchen Training Center	09/06/22	Presque Isle Downs	Allowance
Troubleshooter	Durr Training Center	09/07/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Sealithic	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/07/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Hosanna	Durr Training Center	09/08/22	Thistledown	Allowance
Overnightstandarda	McCutchen Training Center	09/08/22	Kentucky Downs	Allowance
Moneyontheline	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/08/22	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
PRIVATE CREED	Mason Springs	09/08/22	Kentucky Downs	Golden Tote Juvenile S
Lifelovenlaughter	Custom Care-D. Freyer	09/09/22	Pimlico	Maiden Special Weight
Betcha By Golly	Elloree Training Center	09/09/22	Pimlico	Starter Allowance
Finest Work	Durr Training Center	09/10/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
China Cat	Durr Training Center	09/10/22	Charles Town	Starter Allowance
SWAY TO AND FRO	Elloree Training Center	09/10/22	Pimlico	Shine Again S
Conceal Carry	Durr Training Center	09/11/22	Woodbine	Allowance
Melissa's Smile	Durr Training Center	09/12/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Pachabel	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/12/22	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Ace Destroyer	Elloree Training Center	09/13/22	Fort Erie	Allowance
Irish Exit	Durr Training Center	09/14/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Royal Suspect	Durr Training Center	09/14/22	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Market Maven	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/14/22	Parx Racing	Allowance
Too Many Twizzlers	Aiken – Legacy Stable	09/14/22	Kentucky Downs	Allowance
Pinnacle Reef	Shuler Stables	09/14/22	Charles Town	Maiden Special Weight
Organized Chaos	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/15/22	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Lollipop Gumdrop	Durr Training Center	09/16/22	Golden State	Maiden Special Weight
Condensation	McCutchen Training Center	09/16/22	Belterra Park	Maiden Special Weight
Last Romance	Durr Training Center	09/17/22	Monmouth Park	Allowance
PENGUIN POWER	Shuler Stables	09/17/22	Charles Town	Last Enchantment S
Bye Bye Bertie	Elloree Training Center	09/17/22	Los Alamitos	Starter Allowance
Bringer of Rain	Durr Training Center	09/18/22	Woodbine	Maiden Special Weight
Star Rider	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/19/22	Mountaineer Park	Allowance
Cattilabelle	Rentz Farm Training Center	09/20/22	Parx Racing	Starter Allowance

VIRGINIA

GRAND CHAMPION CROWNED IN VIRGINIA BREEDERS FUND YEARLING FUTURITY

2022 Yearling Futurity Grand Champion is an Un-named bay by Cooper Bullet, shown with owner Sara Miller of Timbercreek Farm, the VEA's Jeb Hannum and event judge Frank Shipp. (Hannah Jones photo)

2022 Yearling Futurity Reserve Champion is Pretty Jimmy, owned by Quest Realty and bred by Dan Wukich (in orange shirt). (Hannah Jones photo)

The 21st annual Virginia Breeders Fund Yearling Futurity was held September 13 at the Warrenton Horse Show Grounds which again saw solid participation from twenty different breeders who were competing for $40,000 in awards.

Prize money of $7,500 was distributed that day in each of four classes — VA-Bred/Sired colts/geldings, VA-Bred/Sired fillies, VA-Certified colts/geldings and VA-Certified fillies. Grooms were recognized as well with awards in each division and in the championship class.

A total of $5,000 in bonus monies will also be split between top earning Virginia-Bred/Sired participants at the end of their three-year-old seasons — based on earnings at that time. An identical prize pool and deciding factors will apply to Virginia-Certified Yearling participants as well.

Event judge was Frank Shipp, who compared each entrant's conformation, quality, substance and suitability to become racehorses. The top two finishers in each of the four classes returned to compete for Futurity Grand Champion and Champion Reserve honors. The Grand Champion, winner of the Virginia Certified Fillies class, was a 2021 Un-named bay by Cooper Bullet out of Worth The Risk by Bodemeister. She is owned by Timbercreek Farm's Sara Miller. Reserve Champion honors went to the winner of the Virginia-Bred/Sired Colt/Gelding category, Pretty Jimmy. The chestnut by Jimmy Cred is owned by Quest Realty and was bred by Dan Wukich.

Finishing second in the Certified Fillies category was an Un-named bay by Good Magic (Timbercreek Farm) followed by an Un-named by Street Boss (David Ross). Rounding out the class was Made Birdie (Charles Clement & Brandon Mackey), an Un-named by Bourbon Courage (Eagle Point Farm), an Un-named by Frank Conversation (Alfred Smithwick), and a pair of Un-nameds owned/bred by Joni Fontana/Sugarland LLC and Equine Etiquette. They were by Unified and Outwork respectively.

The balance of the Virginia-Bred/Sired Colt/Gelding class included second place finisher Aonbharr (Susan Cooney), an Un-named by Limehouse (Darlene Bowlin), Nancy Made My Day (Quest/Wukich), Mister Rockefeller (Phyllis Jones), Cousin Giorgos (Quest/Wukich), Free Costs To Much (DMC Racing/Didier Plasencia), Lucky Pauper (Quest/Wukich) and Lord Rockingham (Tim Hulings & Analie Laressi).

Friend Fuhr Real, a chestnut by Friend or Foe, won the Virginia-Bred/Sired Fillies class. Owned and bred by Katherine Martin, the champ is out of the Fiber Sonde mare, I Am Furh Real. Runner-up was Foe What Its Worth—also by Friend or Foe — and is owned by Williams Howland Jr. and co-bred by Howland, Allison Consentino and Timothy Stephan. Am Un-named by Golden Lad was third (Patricia Ramey). The rest in order were an Un-named bay by Great Notion (Morgan's Ford Farm), a 2021 Un-named by Street Boss (MFF/Sally Thomas) and Buzzaway (Carlos Moore/Gillian Gordon-Moore).

In the Virginia-Certified Colt/Gelding class, a 2021 Un-named dark bay/brown by Great Notion prevailed over six others. Owned by Fontana and bred by Sugarland/Equine Etiquette, the ribbon earner is out of Lemon Schnapps by Flatter. Runner-up was an Un-named bay by Great Notion owned/bred by Eagle Point Farm. Thankmyluckymoons was third (Quest/Wukich) followed by Big Happy Notion (Fontana/Sugarland/Equine Etiquette), No Cents Non Cents (Eagle Point Farm), Orienteer (Kathleen Hamlin) and a '21 Un-named by Unified (Fontana/Sugarland/Equine Etiquette).

VIRGINIA'S FALL STEEPLECHASE SEASON HITS THE HOMESTRETCH

Virginia's steeplechase season is nearing the finish line with only two meets left in the 2022 season. After a series of Point-to-Point one-day spring meets followed by NSA sanctioned spring sessions in Middleburg, Charlottesville and The Plains, weekly races at Colonial Downs during its two-month summer meet in New Kent, and two recent early October fall meets, only a pair remain.

The Foxfield Races in Charlottesville took place October 2nd in rainy conditions while the Middleburg Fall Races at Glenwood Park were held six days later on October 8 in pleasant weather. A total of $105,000 in purse monies was distributed among five jump races at Foxfield while $150,000 was doled out in Middleburg between seven steeplechase races. A training flat was held at each venue but was run without a purse.

The final two meets of the season are the International Gold Cup program at Great Meadow October 22 followed by the Montpelier Hunt Races at James Madison's homestead in Montpelier Station on November 5. More details and results can be found at nationalsteeplechase.com.

Check out October action in Virginia courtesy of Douglas Lees.

Cracker Factory (shown mid-race) won the featured 3 1/4 miles, $30,000 National Sporting Library & Museum Cup Timber Stakes at Glenwood Park in Middleburg. The 7-year-old son of Poet's Voice is owned by The Hundred Acre field, trained by Mark Beecher and was ridden by Jamie Bargary who had three wins on the day.

Middleburg Steeplethon winner Duc de Meran, who last competed—and won—during the 2021 spring Gold Cup card, was making his first start in 16 months. The race was held in the memory of D.M. Speedy Smithwick.

Top Brass (#1), winner of Middleburg's $15,000 Maiden Starter Hurdle, was making his first start outside the U.K. The 4-year-old Irish-bred is owned by Ashwell Stable, trained by Leslie Young and was ridden by Thomas Garner.

Irish-bred Modus Operandi (far left) prevailed in Middleburg's Training Flat for trainer Keri Brion, rider Parker Hendriks and owner, Hudson River Farms LLC.

Hard Game (#5) kicked off the Foxfield Races with a win in the $15,000 Maiden Claiming Hurdle. The 4-year-old son of Hard Spun started his jump career in April after 14 races on the flat. He is owned by Hard Game LLC, trained by Kathy Neilson and was led by Gerard Galligan up top.

Theodore Sushko, runner-up jock in the Amateur/Apprentice Rider Hurdle, is shown after the Charlottesville race which was held in damp conditions.

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For more information on the Virginia Breeders Fund or Virginia Stakes Program, please contact the VTA.

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Virginia Breeders Fund

West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter November 2022

Daring to Dream

By Jeff Gilleas

Every state's breeding and development programs have different approaches to achieve and maintain success. The Breeders Classics, our local pantheon for greatness in West Virginia, originated with Sam Huff and Carol Holden, and its seasonal quest began in earnest on Friday, Sept. 16 and Saturday, Sept. 17. It's the time of year where determined owners, trainers and breeders can turn the economic tide of disappointment into a sanctuary for prosperity.

The methodology of prep races for the Classics has long been used to amend money-earned or foster conditioning for prospective entrants, but similar to nationwide trends field size remains an ongoing challenge.

AUTUMN OVERNIGHT STAKES

The marriage of youthful endowment alongside veteran stability morphed into a significant event in Friday night's seventh race, that according to Director of Racing Charlie McIntosh, "will be added to the October 8 West Virginia Breeders Classics agenda."

The thought process is to provide an all-inclusive racing package, whereby sprinting fillies and mares (Blue and Gold Stake), can also showcase their respective talents. Pace usually makes the race and it was a deciding factor here, as Alpine Moon and Full Moon Lover shifted into high gear late to complete the celestial body exacta. The closing duo stalked rapid pacesetters Good Karma and favorite Silky Serena (9-5), before sealing their fate in the abbreviated Charles Town stretch run.

Alpine Moon is a 6-year-old daughter of Swiss Yodeler out of Splendiferous Moon, and like her half-sister, Star of Night, was bred by Heinz Steinmann. Owned by Bearowitz LLC (Pamela Lebowitz), the compact mare has been remodeled as a dash specialist by her trainer Russell E Davis.

There was a raucous trophy presentation, by what seemed like the entire Davis clan, led by 98-year-old matriarch Gloria McCormick.

LAST ENCHANTMENT OVERNIGHT STAKES

Some horses just defy time, track conditions and distance. Penguin Power, a son of Fiber Sonde out of Aye Robbin, is just such a creature.

Bred by John McKee, the 7-year-old gelding bounced back from a sub-par effort in the Potomac Stakes to gain revenge over his arch-rival Hypothesis.

Owned by David Raim and trained by Jeff Runco, Penguin Power accounted for his 16th lifetime win over four adversaries.

Mr. Raim, a staunch advocate for Thoroughbred Aftercare Programs, named Penguin Power after one of his favorite animals, and the gifted stable runner gratifyingly holds the distinction of successfully performing in stakes races beyond the boundaries of West Virginia.

RACHEL'S TURN STAKES

Anatomical changes are happening at an accelerated rate this time of year, as juvenile girls mature from adolescents to adults. The five-horse field featured an infrequent occurrence, with every filly having won their last start, however none quite impressive as the Jeff Runco trainee, Sail On Breeze.

The half-sister to Lewisfield won by 8 lengths in her debut, and the score was as effortless as it looked. Everything seemed to be going according to plan for the 1-5 selection in the $75,000-added race, until the

head of the lane, where Strong Willed and Lightnin Runner loomed boldly into contention.

In the fading light of day in what was supposed to be an exhibition, observed longshot Lightnin Runner edged out Strong Willed by a stretched-out neck. The attractively made daughter of Battalion Runner out of My Lightnin Strike was bred by Nicole and Ronney Brown.

Owned by George Nyren and trained by Angel Rodriguez, Lightnin Runner was dismissed at odds of 12-1, though astute railbirds capitalized on how impressively she vanquished males in her initial outing to harvest a $27 prize.

HENRY MERCER MEMORIAL STAKES

The feel good story of the night had to be Paymengold winning for owner, trainer, breeder Dewayne Johnson. The quiet, hard-working horseman, who lets his horses do the talking for him, pridefully led the son of Golden Lad out of Loves to Glance into the winner's circle.

Completely neglected at the mutuel windows (23-1), the dark/bay gelding is now 2-for-2 since the addition of Lasix. Paymengold broke well from his outside post, briefly relinquished the lead to Teachintherelease (6-5), and nudged clear late to prevail by 3 lengths.

Hopefully, this will be a breakthrough moment in the career of the popular conditioner and communicate his love of the sport.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I often find myself on social media justifying my beloved West Virginia, especially conversations germane to horse racing and breeding. For me, it starts with a product that fosters stability and deviates little from season to season. From fidelity in track ownership to year-round Thoroughbred racing, Charles Town provides a unique alternative to national markets that are often commercially inaccessible.

A rich tradition that incorporates a lucrative purse structure and bonus opportunities for West Virginia bred runners has led to an increasing popularity of their nighttime simulcast signal. Races like the Charles Town Classic, Charles Town Oaks and West Virginia Breeders Classics have substantially increased the Hollywood Casino brand, while providing horsemen an opportunity to remain close to home.

Runnin'toluvya (winner of the 2019 Classic) and Muad'dib (2nd this year), are penning an extraordinary success story, that combined with multiple ancillary relationships generate an economic impact for the entire state. As urgency mounts to proliferate a viable racing package, and reliance on state-bred runners intensify, those with West Virginia-bred horses find state restricted races enticing, especially when you've exhausted conditions, and can run again in similar wide-open races.

This is the time of year where we witness a ceremonial blending of the old and new. Names like Brown, Casey, Funkhouser, Grams, McKee, Runco and Walters, tenured members of the Jefferson County racetrack community, find themselves bracing for the challenge of the future.

Game changers: Breeze Easy Stable, Contreras, Farrior, Huntertown Farm, Pickett and Raim are expanding stables and making the most out of every opportunity. Like their predecessors they are chasing the American Dream, fueled by the desire to be number one.

Recent sales in Kentucky confirm West Virginia-bred horses are competing against the elite in the industry. Mike Schiano DiCola and his team are selling quality West Virginia-bred talent to an audience once thought out-of-bounds to local breeders.

The eighth race on Saturday night, Sept. 24, witnessed 2-year-old Honeyquist, a son of Nyquist out of Honey Chile, raised a stone's throw from the stable gate, dominate his maiden special weight field. The first-time starter, bred by CTHBPA president James Miller, was purchased ($175,000) by a consortium of owners for leading trainer Anthony Farrior.

The Eastern Panhandle has always been a meaningful location for agricultural pursuits, now with an infusion of bold ideas and a resolute pool of passionate individuals, we'll see if pressure truly creates a diamond.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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Chasing
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The surprising cause-and-effect of COVID on 'chasing

Taking a look back at the 2020 Pennsylvania Hunt Cup Races

By Betsy Burke Parker

A race meet lost hurts more than horsemen.

From the admittedly cloistered inside, the ripple effect is hard to see. Horses still get fed and exercised, and life continues apace out on the farms.

But there's surprising fallout.

Farriers to food vendors, riders to real estate sales, everybody loses when sport contracts, none more than the beneficiaries of the hunt meets which have become – across the mid-Atlantic and mid-south National Steeplechase Association circuit, an enormous part of the tight charity-'chase connection.

As example, since its inception in 1921, the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup has given more than $1 million to charitable causes in southeast Pennsylvania. For the past 10 years, they've partnered with the Chester County Food Bank, a 501c3 providing a county-wide safety net against hunger and food insecurity in what most see as an area that this is unlikely to happen.

But even in a time and a place it's hard to imagine anyone going to bed hungry, food bank officials caution that it's very real.

If the 86th running of the PHC hadn't happened, it would have been a catastrophe for the food bank, says meet co-chair Anne Moran.

"Thanks to the unwavering support of our loyal friends and sponsors, we're able to hold the races this Sunday," says Anne, who's chaired the November 1, 2020 event with husband Michael for some 15 years.

Outriders on the PA Hunt Cup course.
©Tod Marks

"Current Pennsylvania guidelines limit attendance, which means we cannot allow spectators on the grounds," only essential personnel, yet another obstacle to Hunt Cup supporting the food bank.

But obstacles are no obstacle to this formidable team.

PHC's committee conceived an innovative way to support their charity – by asking patrons to donate to the food bank the price of their race ticket. Since the races will be live-streamed, Anne says, it's possible to be part of the action while staying safe at home under Pennsylvania state pandemic guidelines.

"This is a critical need right now, right here," Anne says. "This is how we're able to help."

Anne and Michael Moran's direct involvement with Pennsylvania Hunt Cup started when they purchased the old Choate property that was centerpiece of the expansive racecourse. The course actually crosses four other farms, but the former Choate farm is at the center.

Previously, the farm was cattle pasture most of the year, with land manager, the late Bill Teter pulling stock off weeks before the races for prep.

It wasn't a better or worse method of management, Anne stresses, just how it worked back then.

But when the Morans bought it, they opted to take hay off the field rather than cattle. Michael and his seasonal team worked relentlessly to erase worn footpaths, natural bumps and undulations, and a dedicated racecourse emerged.

For what then was their first foray into running a race meet, Anne enlisted help from former jump rider Kathee Rengert to serve as their first race director. "Today's (seamless) model is due to Kathee's vision.

"We owe a lot to her," Anne says.

Rengert died just before the 2018 meet after a short illness.

Rengert's expert hand lives on, says 2020 race director Andrea Collins. The first-time race director does admit cutting her teeth this COVID year has been an eye-opener.

"It's like catching hare with bare hands - a challenge, but hugely rewarding when you succeed," she says. "Actually, I have never tried before (catching a rabbit with my hands or managing a race), but I imagine that's what it's like.

"Every time you thought you are close, it changes direction at amazing speed and you start over.

"I have the privilege to be surrounded

by an amazing group of people and everybody on the team is very knowledgeable and dedicated."

Helping those that help the community

This year's PHC marks a decade of partnership with the Chester County Food Bank.

The meet used to have up to four beneficiaries, evenly splitting proceeds between them each year.

About 10 years ago, Betty Moran approached Michael and Anne to take on the food bank as the sole PA Hunt Cup charity.

"It was hard to say no to Betty," Michael maintains, explaining that his mother – who died earlier in 2020 – thought it made more sense to donate all the funds to a single charity.

"It's been a great connection," Anne adds. "This year more than ever, our goal for the race meet has been twofold. To support the horsemen who put on the show and to raise money for the food bank."

Last year, PHC donated $45,000; their optimistic 2020 goal is $50,000.

"We called all the (race) sponsors to explain the situation," Anne says. "We'd already cut the purses and gone to a bare-bones race meet," like others held earlier on the circuit; this year there's no carriage parade, no hound exhibition, no shopping plaza and no pony races.

To make up for it, the committee tried to contact all their prior patrons and subscribers, and previous sponsors, to donate directly to the food bank.

"During this unprecedented time, the food bank is seeing an increase over 60 percent" in need, CCFB director Larry Welsch explains, adding that the painful problem affects everyone in Chester County, directly or indirectly. "We've mobilized our network of vendors to maintain an average inventory of 500,000 pounds of food to meet our needs."

Anne and Michael Moran.
©Douglas Lees

Welsch maintains that even in what most see as comfortable west-Philly suburbs and prosperous farmland fringing one of the most thriving cities on the east coast, there's desperate – if invisible – deprivation.

"The food bank is grateful to have the Moran family as our champions against hunger in the region, and to have the PHC community as a partner in our vision to create a food-secure Chester County," Welsch says.

Another member of the Moran clan, Michael Moran's nephew Ranney, plays an unique role at the food bank. A couple years ago, a few years into his professional cooking career after graduation from the prestigious French Culinary Institute, Ranney conceived the model for a food-service training program working with those struggling with addiction.

He kept it close to home, volunteering at CCFB and getting the green-light to launch the FRESHstart Kitchen; it stands for Focusing Resources on Employment, Self-Sufficiency and Health.

Now director of culinary programs, Ranney oversees meal production and kitchen contracts, something his uncle and aunt are justly proud of.

"This tight-knit (connection) of horses and horse sports to the wider community is critical, always, but especially in 2020," Anne says. "It's become even more dire a need this year with so many people without jobs.

"This is how we can help. And that's important."

Dosdi (Charlie Fenwick, up) flies over the formidable PA Hunt Cup timber in 1979.
©Douglas Lees

History of the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup

First run in 1921 over a course in Whitemarsh, the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup moved to its present location near Unionville in 1964.

Following the 1987 death of landowner Arthur Choate Jr., neighboring property owners Michael and Anne Moran purchased the 200 acres and placed it under a land conservation easement, forming the central portion of today's racecourse on 100 acres of the original Choate property that crosses three other farms including the old Weymouth and Ledyard properties.

The eponymous feature is one of just three 4-mile steeplechase races sanctioned by the National Steeplechase Association. It's long been indirectly tied to year-end honors – winners of the Cup that went on to the timber title include Foyle 2013, Young Dubliner (champion in 2002, Cup winner in 2003), Free Throw 1993, Joe's OK 1990, Von Csadek 1988, Redgate 1983, Sam Son of a Gun 1981, Dosdi 1979 (Cup winner in 1976, '77, '79), Fort Devon 1975, Jacko 1971, '72 and '73, Boating Party 1968 and Haffaday 1967.

Billy Barton won the 1927 Pennsylvania Hunt Cup; he was second in the 1928 English Grand National.

Long-time Pennsylvania Hunt Cup co-chair Anne Moran has seen the action from both sides of the fence. She won the headline Pennsylvania Hunt Cup timber stake three times as a jockey – 1986 with Tom Miller, and 1995 and 1996 with Buck Jakes

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In Memoriam

BARRIE REIGHTLER

HERB MOELIS

Herb Moelis bred, bought, sold and raced some of the classiest Thoroughbreds in the Mid-Atlantic via Delaware's CandyLand Farm he owned with his wife Ellen. But he'll be remembered for following through on a rather simple concept of auctioning stallion seasons to benefit the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation.

Spurred on by their neighbor and fellow owner/breeder Allaire duPont, the Moelises hosted the first auction at CandyLand in 1990 and raised $15,000. By 1997, the idea had become the Thoroughbred Charities of America, now responsible for more than $26 million in grants to some 200 non-profit organizations in the industry.

The TCA supports Thoroughbred rehabilitation, repurposing, rehoming and retirement; backstretch and farm employee programs; therapy programs that utilize Thoroughbreds; and equine research. The annual stallion-season auction continues to be a major source of funding.

Herb Moelis died Oct. 6 at age 91. He'll be remembered for his business success–the New York native graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business in 1953, earned a law degree from New York University and was a tax attorney and CPA. He worked on Wall Street, became a successful entrepreneur and CEO of several companies including Equity Leasing Corp., which he took public.

That background and more transferred over to racing when he and Ellen bought CandyLand in 1986. In 1988, CandyLand claimed 2-year-old filly Redeemer whose first foal (by Houston) sold for $335,000 to lead all colts at the 1993 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling sale. CandyLand was a regular at sales in Kentucky and New York, and a fixture at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic, where the Delaware farm topped the yearling sale four times.

CandyLand co-bred and sold multiple stakes winner Shimmering Aspen and sold the graded-stakes placed–and multiple stakes winner–Kiss the Girl. Cinco Charlie, who won a Grade 3 stakes and earned $608,920, was bred and sold by CandyLand. The racing program, Candy Stable, campaigned graded stakes winner Cat Be Nimble among others solo or in partnership. CandyLand also played a major role in the early days of the Delaware-certified program.

Beyond the racing and sales-ring success, however, lies a more lasting contribution to racing.

"How many ideas in the horse business don't work out?" TCA president Mike McMahon asked at a 2018 event honoring the Moelises. "It's really cool that this one continues to work well and it's such a testament to their idea. Strong stewardship is the key."

TCA moved its annual auction to Kentucky in 2007, and formally affiliated with the national Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association–furthering the impact and extending the concept's reach.

Moelis was called an "aftercare pioneer" by many, and worked tirelessly to promote Thoroughbred retirement and second careers. In addition to his efforts at TCA, he and Ellen helped found the Thoroughbred Education and Research Foundation. Based in Pennsylvania, TERF makes grants to support Thoroughbred health and welfare by funding scholarships, educational programs and equine research with a priority to make racing safer.

Moelis served on the boards of NTRA Charities, University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Library, Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, the Winner's Foundation and the Secretariat Center.

Moelis is survived by his wife, sons Ron and wife Kerry, Ken and wife Julie, daughter Cindy and husband Bob; and 10 grandchildren. Donations may be made to Thoroughbred Charities of America, P.O. Box 910668, Lexington, KY 40591 or Thoroughbred Education and Research Foundation 28 West Market Street, West Chester, PA 19382.

LOUIS 'BUCKY' JOLIN

Former New Jersey-based trainer Louis F. "Bucky" Jolin died in Ocala, Fla., last month. The World War II veteran was 97. Jolin won the Grade 2 Young America Stakes with Southern Sign in 1990 and also trained stakes winner Muffies Muffin for New Jersey breeder Dr. George Rosenberger.

Jolin had a farm in New Egypt, N.J., and was the owner of Bucky's Turf Supply on the Jersey circuit. Among runners he bred was stakes winner Network Effect, who placed in multiple graded stakes for Klaravich Stables and trainer Chad Brown.

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Looking Back

75 years ago

■ Laurel's 25-day stand was one to lend real encouragement to the new owners, the Maryland Jockey Club. Bucking the national downward trend of business, the meeting had increased attendance, and mutuel play was up nearly 10 percent from the previous year.

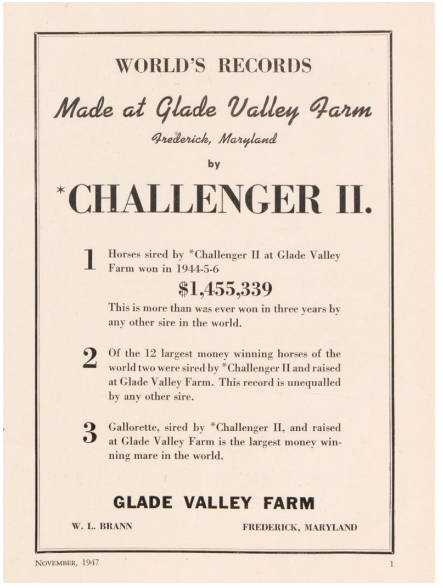
The new operators, headed by Henry A. Parr III, also president of Pimlico, started off spending $250,000 for improvements in the stable area, along with sizable other sums on parking lots, beautification and changes designed to make things more pleasant for the customers. The course halfway between Washington and Baltimore always has been considered an ideal site for racing but former management never had quite developed all its possibilities.

■ According to Frank A. Bonsal, it is no credit to him that he was leading trainer at the Laurel meet. "It's nothing," he said with characteristic modesty. "You see, I have a stable of very useful horses."

Bonsal's public stable had 16 owners, which was noted, "though not a record for one trainer, it is quite unusual."

Prior to training, Bonsal was a successful steeplechase rider, twice winning the Maryland Hunt Cup (aboard Bon Master). Devoting himself to flat runners since 1935, he lived at Mantua Farm in Glyndon, Md., with his wife and three children.

■ Three applications for harness racing in 1948, each for 20 days or nights, were tentatively approved by the Maryland Racing Commission while seven other such applications were turned down, at least temporarily.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The Laurel group planned a track on Washington Boulevard, on the site of the old J.K.L. Ross farm.

50 years ago

■ Mr. and Mrs. Stuart S. Janney Jr. had a small operation, but what they lacked in size they made up for in success. Their only two older horses in training in 1972 were Icecapade and On Your Toes. The former, a son of Nearctic and Shenanigans, earned more than $150,000 that year with four stakes wins. On Your Toes (a Maryland-bred by Restless Native) won Laurel's Capitol Handicap and was approaching $100,000 for the year.

The couple also had four juveniles, with two already winners (Indian Sign and Norumbega), while the highly promising Bold Ruler filly Laughter (a half-sister to Icecapade) had yet to start, but was quite close to a race, according to trainer Frank Whiteley.

Icecapade became a highly successful sire at Gainesway Farm in Kentucky, credited with nearly 70 stakes winners. His son Wild Again won the inaugural Breeders' Cup Classic-G1, and he was the damsire of Horse of the Year and Hall of Famer Lady's Secret.

Laughter was unraced at 2, won four times at 3 and retired to the breeding shed where she produced five stakes winners including graded winners Private Terms, Blue Ensign and Light Spirits.

■ Ben Cohen, one of Pimlico's principal owners, won the track's opening day $20,000 Cameo Stakes with Native Go Go, a 2-year-old filly bred and owned by his wife, Zelda. Ben bought his first racehorse in 1951, just before purchasing Pimlico with his brother Herman.

"It was in January at the dispersal of the Riddle Estate horses," he recalled. "I had always been interested in Man o' War, so we picked out a grandson of his named War Age. Paid $12,500 for him.We gave something like $3,500 for a fily named Aunt Jane. Both were unraced 2-year-olds.

"Well, War Age earned just under $100,000 for us and won a stakes race (the Maryland Sprint Handicap). Aunt Jane won, but she wasn't much." The Cohens' big horse was homebred Hail to All, winner of the 1965 Belmont Stakes.

"The only way to get a good horse these days is to breed one," he said. "Aside from your own family–the children and the grandchildren, particularly– the greatest thrill a man can have is to see one of his own homebreds win a race."

■ A Thoroughbred fund breeding program was passed by both houses of the Pennsylvania legislature. Administered by the racing commission, the program would be worth almost $250,000 in its first year to state breeders, owners of stallions, and racehorses in competiton. It was first proposed by the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association.

■ In a complete reversal of policy, it was announced that the winners of the Maryland Hunt Cup would automatically qualify for a starting berth in the Grand National at Aintree. Two-time Maryland Hunt Cup winner Landing Party was obligated to compete in qualifying races for the 1972 Grand National after being shipped to England in 1971. He was severely injured in one of those races, which resulted in his death.

■ Maryland lost two well-known members of the local community–Fritz Boniface, patriarch of one of Maryland's best-known families of horsemen, died at age 92; and John M. Heil, general manager of the Timonium race track and fairgrounds since 1950, was gone at 65.

Boniface and his wife, the former Ellen Louisa Judd, moved from England to Canada in 1913, and relocated to Maryland in the 1930s, where Fritz became manager of Mrs. Robert H. Heighe's Thoroughbred nursery in Bel Air. Three of his sons–Sydney, John and William (the latter the longtime racing editor for the *Baltimore Sunpapers*)–were professional horsemen, as was his grandson, J. William Boniface.

Heil started working at Timonium as a teenager and was described by staff writer Lucy Acton as "a rather outspoken and forthright man. . . who always meant what he said, and he always said what he meant."

25 years ago

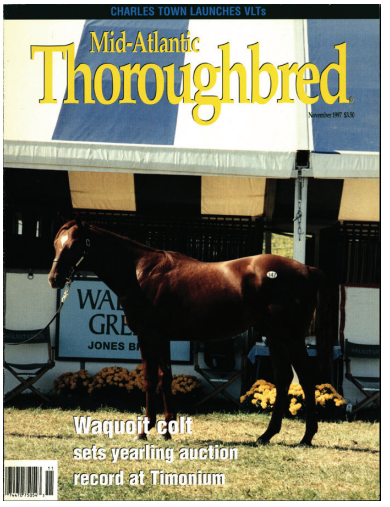
■ The first 223 video lottery terminals were put into operation at Charles Town. In the first three weeks, the VLTs handled nearly $2 million, reported the West Virginia Lottery.

Said Roger Ramey, the track's vice-president of public affairs: "Without VLTs, we'd be gone. That's a given. If they carry racing, then that's the way it has to be."

■ The Eastern Fall yearling sale had Timonium bursting at the seams with a record 638 yearlings catalogued. A total of 456 sold for $7,702,800, with the sale topper bringing a record $220,000. The Pennsylvania-bred Waquoit colt named Buck Trout was consigned by his breeder Joy Valentine of Unionville, Pa., and purchased by Dr. Mikel C. Harrington. Of the top 10 sires by gross, nine were Maryland sires.

Buck Trout won the Norfolk Stakes-G2 at Santa Anita at 2, finished seventh in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile-G1 and earned $207,880 in 10 starts for owner Heinz J. Steinmann and trainer Mike Harrington.

■ James W. Casey and his wife Eleanor, along with sons James M. Casey and John A. Casey, established a virtual dynasty in the marquee event on West Virginia Breeders Classic night at Charles Town. Take Aim gave the family its sixth win in



the featured $150,000 Classic. In 11 runnings of the race, the Casey family also scored with Taylor Mountain (1989 and '90), Nice Ainit (1991) and Coin Collector (1992 and '93). And the Caseys were the breeders of the previous year's winner Ardent Arab—he and Take Aim were sons of the Caseys' stallion Weshaam.

■ The 1997 MATCH series concluded with Arthur Appleton's homebred American Champ the top point-earner, rewarding his owner $120,000 in bonuses and trainer Bob Camac $40,000. American Champ competed in six of the seven stakes for 3-year-old sprinters, won three, and never was worse than third. Two points behind in second was Cat Be Nimble, owned by Candy Stable (Herb Moelis) and trained by Tim Ritchey. Appearing in all seven events for older sprinters, Cat Be Nimble won two and was never worse than fourth. His connections received $60,000 and $20,000, respectively.

■ Weather Vane got her seventh stakes win of 1997—and first graded of her career—when she scored by 3 lengths in the Safely Kept Stakes-G3 at Colonial Downs. Trained by Richard Delp, the daughter of the Roanoke Island stallion Willard Scott, who stood in Maryland for $750, pushed her earnings to $337,199 for the Par Four Racing Stable, a partnership of her trainer's son Bill (also her breeder), Bill's wife Sherri, brother Gary Delp and father-in-law Pete Dillon.

Weather Vane would add Laurel's Stefanita Stakes in November, which tied her for second-most stakes wins in a year for a Mid-Atlantic-bred. Of her 17 wins from 36 starts, 14 were stakes while amassing $724,532.

■ The colt and filly sales-toppers at Keeneland's September yearling sale had strong Mid-Atlantic ties. Commanding a sales-record $2.3 million was a Mr. Prospector colt out of New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year Missy's Mirage. Betty Moran's Brushwood Stable, of Malvem, Pa., bred and sold a filly for $950,000. Foaled in Kentucky, she was a daughter of Pennsylvania-bred Danzig.

10 years ago

■ When the Cotillion Stakes earned Grade 1 status for 2012, Parx Racing boosted the purse from $750,000 to $1 million, but the race for 3-year-old fillies attracted just four entries, leaving many disappointed. Until the race—which was considered one of the best in its 42-year history.

Eclipse Award champion 2-year-old filly My Miss Aurelia remained undefeated in six starts after a stretch duel and head victory over favorite Questing (GB), the division leader coming in after scores in the Coaching Club American Oaks-G1 and Alabama Stakes-G1.

At year's end, Questing got the edge for the Eclipse Award by four votes, 106-102.

■ Groupie Doll, a 4-year-old daughter of former Maryland stallion Bowman's Band, ranked as the nation's top female sprinter after winning the Grade 2 Presque Isle Downs Masters, her third graded sprint win in a row following Grade 1 scores in the Vinery Madison

Trainer John Mazza (center) received the Virgil "Buddy" Raines Award from Monmouth Park stakes coordinator Dan Dufford (right). Joining in the ceremony was 1997 Raines Award winner Dan Perlsweig.

at Keeneland and Churchill Downs' Humana Distaff in May, the latter in track record time. She dominated in the Thoroughbred Club of America-G2 at Keeneland next out.

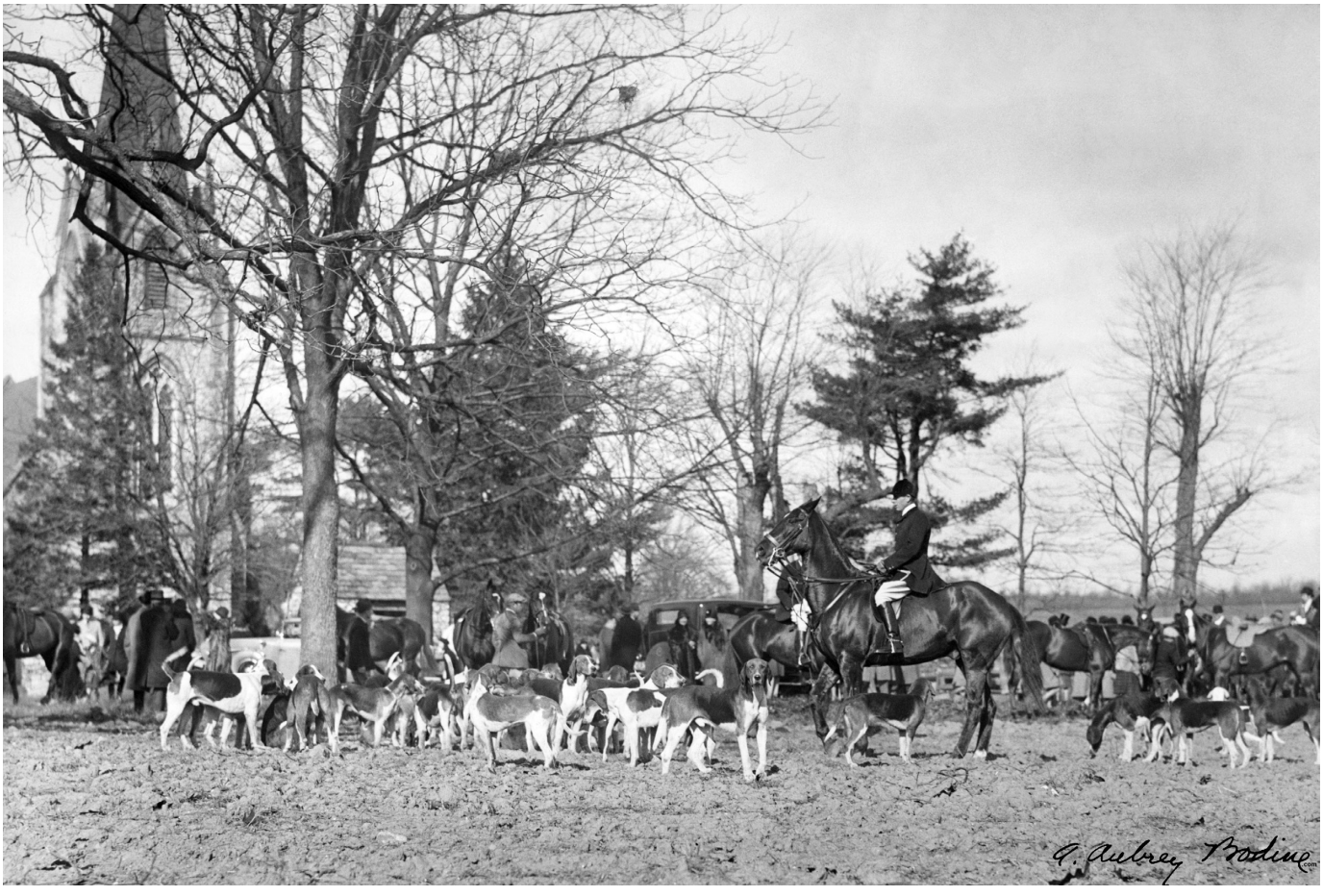
Groupie Doll followed with her first of two Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint-G1 victories and was named champion female sprinter. She came back the next year to win a second Masters and second Eclipse Award.

■ Memories came flooding back after the death of the oldest winner of a Triple Crown race, Preakness winner Deputed Testamony, at age 32. He lived his whole life in Harford County—born on one Bonita Farm in Creswell, standing at stud and passing away on another in Darlington. In between, he lived a magical life. His achievements included the Grade 1 Haskell at Monmouth Park and a track record (which still stands) in his final start, the City of Baltimore Stakes at 1 1/16 miles on Preakness Day at Pimlico in 1984. His 21 stakes winners included graded winners Gold Fleece, Testafly and Under Oath.

"He was a kind horse, a good horse to work around, a good horse to breed, a good horse to have, a horse that gave as much as he possibly could," said his trainer and co-breeder Billy Boniface.

■ Audley Farm sold a Smart Strike half-sister to Grade 1-winning millionaire Bodemeister for $1.3 million to a partnership of John Sikura and Bruce Lansford at the Keeneland September yearling sale. The Virginia-bred was out of Untouched Talent, by Storm Cat.

Named Fascinating, the filly placed in two Grade 1 stakes at 2 and won a maiden race at 3 for Bodemeister's trainer Bob Baffert.



Blessed Sport. The Green Spring Valley Hounds meet at St. John's Church in 1931, a tradition that still beckons with the annual Blessing of the Hounds on Thanksgiving Day.

Photojournalist A. Aubrey Bodine, who worked at the Baltimore *Sun* for 50 years – from 1920 until his death in 1970 – captured many scenes of Maryland horses, farms and racing. He was regarded worldwide as one of the finest pictorialists of the 20th century. *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* features his work in Past Time.

Image #43-675 www.aaubreybodine.com
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New For 2023

$3,000 LF

TRUE VALOUR (IRE)

Kodiac (GB) – Sutton Veny (IRE),
by Acclamation (GB)

Multiple Graded SW of $690,237
By a Perennial Leading 2YO Sire
and Grandson of DANEHILL

- Multiple Graded SW of $690,237
- Won/Placed in Graded Stakes Six Straight Years
- Won/Placed in 16 Stakes, Winning Five From 5 1/2 Furlongs to One Mile
- Ran 100+ Beyers at Three Different Distances

AT TWO,
Placed in two of three starts, incl. runner-up a nose to War Front's G1 SW LANCASTER BOMBER

AT THREE,
Won/placed in four stakes, incl. defeating older horses and multiple GSWs winning Curragh's one mile Celebration S., on a yielding course; 2nd Solonaway Boomerang S.-**G2**, beaten a half-length to Keeneland G1 SW SUEDOIS

OTHER STAKES WINS INCLUDE:
Santa Anita's City of Hope Mile S.-**G2** (101 Beyer, in 1:32 ⅘)
Thunder Road S.-G3 defeating **G1** SW/millionaire RIVER BOYNE (IRE)
Leopardstown's Ballycorus S.-**G3** carrying 135 lbs.

IN THREE STARTS IN 2022:
1st King T. Leatherbury S. off a 13-month lay-off
2nd Saratoga's Troy S.-**G3** (**100 Beyer**), by a head to 2021 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-**G1** winner GOLDEN PAL
3rd Jaipur S.-**G1** (**101 Beyer**), a length to three-time **G1** SW CASA CREED

THE SIRE LINE
By a Perennial Leading 2-Year-Old Sire and Grandson of the Great DANEHILL

KODIAC's Sire Connections
By the most successful sire of all time, DANEHILL (349 SWs, 89 G1 SWs), and a half-brother to influential European sire and G1-winning sprinter INVINCIBLE SPIRIT (sire of 20+ G1 SWs, incl. 8 2YOs, with 21 sons at stud, incl. leading sires KINGMAN and I AM INVISIBLE)

KODIAC, a Sought-After Source of Precocity
Champion European Sire of 2YOs – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Champion European Sire by Winners – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

IN 2022
World's Top Sire of 2-Year-Old Winners with 44 (as of 10/14/22), Top 10 Leading European General Sire, 11 SWs, 4 G1 SHs

LIFETIME:
Sire of 81 SWs, 37 GSWs, of which 24 are 2YO GSWs, 171 Total SHs, incl.
CAMPANELLE (IRE) – Champion 2YO filly, 2x G1 SW
BEST SOLUTION (IRE) – Champion and 3x G1 SW, 1st foals are yearlings in 2022
HELLO YOUMZAIN (FR) – won Royal Ascot's Diamond Jubilee S.-G1, Betfair Sprint Cup-G1, etc. First foals arrive in 2022

AND SUCCESSFUL SIRE OF SIRES
Five Sons Have Sired Group Winners to date, incl.
ARDAD (IRE) – 2021 Leading First Crop Sire in England and second in Europe
KODI BEAR (IRE) – three G1SHs and Top Five Leading 2nd Crop Sire in Europe in 2021

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